The Middlebury Campus

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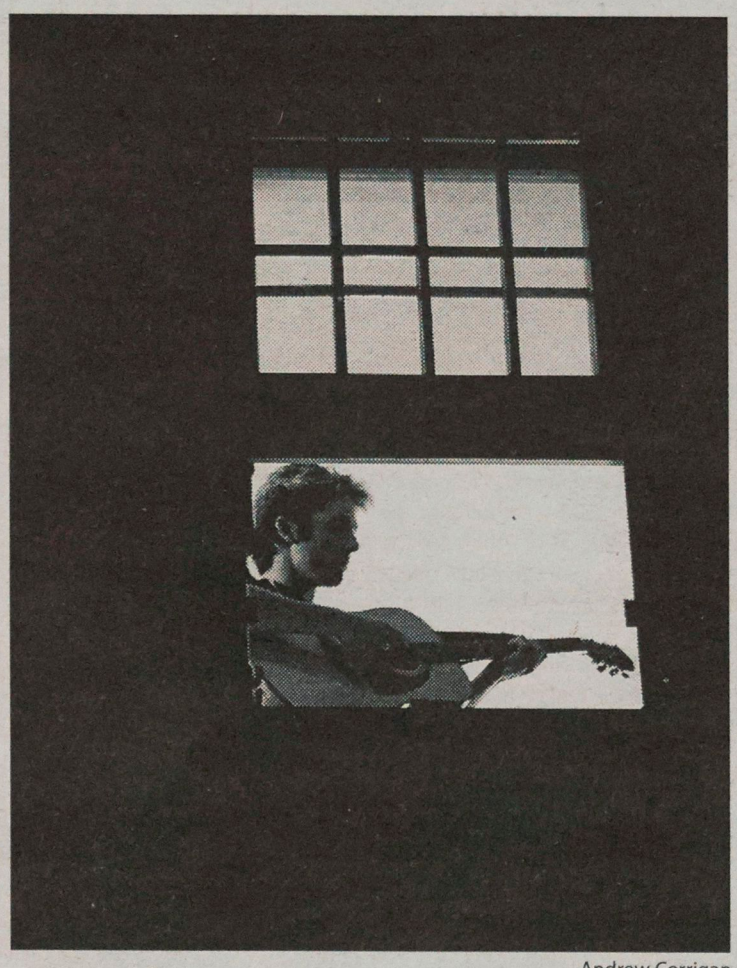
Private Show



Andrew Corrigan

Performing in front of an open window, *a Middlebury student treats his audience to some midnight strumming.*

Three Students Garner Watson Prize

By Julia Urcis
Staff Writer

Jonathan Reiber, Molly Holmberg and Elizabeth Harper, three out of the four Middlebury College seniors who were nominated for the Watson Fellowship, were notified last week of their selection as Watson recipients.

This prestigious fellowship is presented to students at 50 American liberal arts institutions, with a maximum of four students from each school. This is the third consecutive year that three Middlebury students have been awarded the Watson Fellowship, a distinction shared with only five other colleges.

According to the Thomas J. Watson Fellowship Program 2000-2001, the foundation seeks "individuals who demonstrate integrity, imagination, strong ethical character, intelligence, the capacity for vision and leadership, the promise of creative achievement and excellence within a chosen field and the potential for humane and effective participation in the world community."

Academic record and extracurricular activities, which reflect both initiative and serious dedication, are also considered.

Reiber, who calls his proposal "Faith-Based Peacemaking Communities and the End of Estrangement," shared his feelings about the opportunity to pursue his passion.

He said, "I have always had an interest in working with dialogue issues. I want to help people to see one another in such a way that they can help themselves, not for them to be understood simply as they would like to be seen, and to help them think more deeply."

In his personal statement, Reiber wrote, "I have believed in the power of community for a long time probably since I heard 'We are the World' when I was in the first grade but only got involved in community building when I attended the International Leadership Conference of the American Youth Foundation. There I learned that the estrangement of racism and prejudice could be breached if people were given the appropriate opportunities to do so ... if they were allowed to enter into the dialogue that happens in community."

Reiber has considerable experience dealing with community issues. "In working with the Peace Symposium on both the local and national level," he said, "I have seen how dialogue and story telling can help bring people together despite boundaries of race, religion and other social, economic and political differences."

Reiber wants to see people move toward peace and conflict resolution through inter-faith and multicultural tolerance.

He questions, "Is peace really the goal? Tolerance? Are they really opening up to each other?" Reiber understands that he is "going to have a hard year, going to see a lot of tough things, going to see human reality outside of the U.S."

Reiber concluded, "My Watson Fellowship would help me further discover the ways that we come to know and value each other despite the differences and conflicts that come between us. If it is in the shelter of each other that the people live,and I believe that it is, I want to see how I can help build that shelter."

Holmberg proposed a Watson project titled "Mapping Footsteps: Travel Routes of Rural, Highland Communities: Peru, Mongolia, Madagascar and Scottish Isles"

She said, "The physical and mental connections that one experiences while traveling from rural areas to urban life are incredible."

Holmberg's love for backpacking stems more from the experience itself rather than the thrill of reaching the summit. When she saw Mount Everest with her family, she discovered this perspective along with the love for environment and the "actual trails themselves."

She said the College should find

(see Watson, page 5)

Revised Proposal Calls for Alternative Transportation

By Tim McCahill
Assistant News Editor

More than a month after beginning its campaign to ban sport utility vehicles (SUVs) from campus and submitting a proposal calling for alternative transportation options to President John McCardell and the Student Government Association (SGA), the campus activist group Environmental Quality (EQ) has returned to the drafting stages for a new, more moderate proposal.

The modified proposal, submitted last week to the College's Environmental Council (EC), represents a clear move away from the language used during the anti-SUV campaign, which many students deemed to be overly reactionary. EQ has asked the EC to look over the proposal and to give the group suggestions on how it might be amended to further the existing demand for alternative transportation options to locations on and off campus.

EQ was criticized by McCardell after the campaign was launched Feb. 26 for not going through "proper channels" like the EC or SGA.

Talk of the campaign was the subject of much conversation among students immediately following its launching, but discussion has ebbed in recent weeks. Until last week, debate on the Environmental Affairs listserv remained heated, with members of EQ and student environmentalists unaffiliated with the organization exchanging fired words over the necessity of owning an SUV – particularly in Vermont.

Tyson Schoelzel '01, an environmental studies major, responded to criticism posted on the listserv by EQ member Ben Gore '04, alleging that EQ and Gore had "precipitated the development and exaggeration of the stratification of ... approaches to environmental restoration."

The response, circulated to subscribers on March 13, prompted a response from Gore who, while admitting that he had been "extremely aggressive" in some of his comments, urged others to "slow down" in their reactions to the campaign. In the same response he extended

(see Chronicle, page 3)

Disabled Students Find Support in ADA Office

By Devin Zatorski
News Editor

When Elizabeth Christensen introduces herself as the Middlebury College Coordinator of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), surprised students, faculty and staff occasionally ask, "We have students with disabilities here?"

Christensen grins and replies, "Yeah, come see my filing cabinet."

Since November 1995, she has guided students with physical, psychological and learning-related disabilities through the rigors of Middlebury's curriculum, acting as an advocate for them with professors, relocating classes to handicapped-accessible buildings or a host of other, equally noble tasks.

Learning-disabled or dyslexic students may require additional time to complete an exam, explained Christensen, and students with visual impairments may need texts recorded on tape, sometimes in a foreign language.

(see Christensen, page 4)

Elizabeth Christensen, ADA Coordinator, works to make the College more universally accessible to disabled people.

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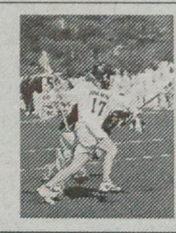


COLLEGE shorts

By Ashley Elpern
News Editor

Controversial Ad Draws Protest at Brown

Brown University students stole the entire press run of the Friday, March 16 edition of *The Brown Daily Herald* in protest over an ad denouncing reparations for slavery appearing in the March 13 edition. Following the publication of David Horowitz's ad entitled "Ten Reasons Why Reparations for Slavery is a Bad Idea — and Racist Too," a coalition of 15 campus groups met with *The Herald's* editors and staff to demand that the paper compensate them for publishing the ad. Forty-six other college newspapers received the ad, and Horowitz's campaign has received press in *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Washington Post*, among other papers.

The coalition's petition, that circulated the university, demanded the Herald give the $725 cost of the full-page ad to a campus minority organization as well as giving a free whole page ad to "educate the greater Brown community on related issues."

The Herald refused to meet any of the demands and defended its decision to run the ad. "We believe *The Herald* had a responsibility to welcome disparate points of view, and not all of those points of view are going to be popular," Editor-in-Chief Patrick Moos '02 said. *The Herald's* general manager, Nicholas Russo '03, said the paper does not censor ads based on political content. He said the decision to run Horowitz's ad was in keeping with the newspaper's advertising policy.

On Friday, *Herald* staff members physically restrained a mob of students who tried to force their way into the newspaper office to destroy the remaining 100 copies of the paper, angered at the lack of response from the staff. Members of the coalition removed the papers from distribution bins, replacing them with fliers accusing the paper of insensitivity. In a statement on Friday, *The Herald* told the press that the seizure of newspapers is "an unacceptable attempt to silence our voice." The statement added that, "we will not censor advertisements because of their politics, which is what we believe our critics wish us to do."

Tempers Flare During Horowitz's UC-Berkeley Speech

A forum at the University of California at Berkeley featuring the aforementioned David Horowitz suddenly ended as a debate between Horowitz and audience members escalated and microphones were suddenly unplugged, according to *The Daily Californian*. During the question-and-answer session, Horowitz and an audience member exchanged yells as the crowd grew raucous, prompting Ben Carrasco, the event's emcee, to pull the plug on the microphones. Horowitz was quickly escorted out by his bodyguards. The forum had Horowitz focus the controversy surrounding his advertisement against reparations for slavery. The ad ran in *The Daily Californian* on Feb. 28, followed by a front-page apology the next day. "Apparently on this campus, some ideas are too dangerous for the campus community to hear," Horowitz told the audience, calling the political atmosphere "radical McCarthyism." He called students at UC-Berkeley to demonstrate that free speech is still alive. Conservative groups at UC-Berkeley planned to bring Horowitz over a year ago to inspire conservative thought. The event was touted as a celebration of free speech, drawing over 300 people. Dipi Barot, one of the few able to question Horowitz regretted that she was not able to debate with him, as he did not address the advertisement more thoroughly. "What is his purpose for bringing all this up?" she asked *The Daily Californian*. "It's not as if there is a reparations wave sweeping the country. He's just using this as a vehicle for hate."

Partying Loses Momentum in Cancun

Officials at the Office of Tourism in Cancun have taken new measures to curb rampant drunken and indecent behavior in the popular Spring Break location. The city receives over 2 million visitors per year, with over 100,000 of them coming in the six-week spring break period, according to *The University of Maryland Diamondback*. The Office of Tourism's campaign to minimize the rowdy behavior of college students begins by asking them to sign a code of conduct on arrival. The rules of the code include: No public sex or nudity, no drinking or urinating in the street, no free rides on public transportation and no rudeness or disruptions of public order. In addition to a passport or other identification, visitors must carry a Mexican Tourist Permit, issued free of charge after proof of citizenship upon arrival. This permit must be presented upon departure, and if lost, visitors must obtain a copy or permission to leave the country from the Immigration Office. Cancun bars, hotels and discos are increasingly charging fees for any damages made by visitors and all bars must also stop serving alcohol at 4 a.m. instead of 5 a.m.

Source: *U-Wire Today*

Role of Arts at College Draws Attention

By Zach Robert
Opinions Editor

When *The New York Times* and The Brookings Institute contested the academic competence of liberal arts athletes, the Middlebury College community rallied in defense that, coupled with Middlebury's cultivation of its scholar-athlete reputation, highlighted the significance of athletics at Middlebury. The significance was pronounced enough that it has brought into question the comparative importance of another Middlebury program: the arts.

While there is unequivocal agreement that the quality of the arts programs at Middlebury has increased in the past decade, particularly under the stewardship of new administrators like Director of the Office for Institutional Diversity Roman Graf and Associate Deans of Faculty Jim Larrabee and Micheal Geisler, there remain considerable differences in the level of satisfaction among faculty members.

Among students there is some feeling of under-appreciation, ranging from the available physical and financial resources to the response that arts-related activities draw from the College community. Notwithstanding that a portion of student and faculty discontent can be attributed to Middlebury's status as a liberal arts college, where the smaller size of the institution accounts for some resource shortages, there is between these two groups the sentiment that, though arts programs have improved, there is still work to be done. Summarizing the situation, College Choir Conductor and Twilight Artist-in-Residence Francois Clemmons said, "Middlebury lacks an ongoing awareness of the arts."

"Filling the House"

Concerning the receptivity of the community to arts events, where the disparity between sports crowds and arts audiences is apparent, Associate Professor of Music Greg Vitercik remarked that it is extremely common for sports spectators to outnumber art audiences. After all, sports are often the raison d'etre of collegiate social life.

Many students and faculty said they felt it is important not to downplay too greatly the effect the College's decisions have on the arts' prosperity. College policy does play a role in the receptivity of Middlebury to the arts, though the magni-

NEWS analysis

tude of that role may be in dispute. The question is, given the relative lack of art awareness and appreciation at Middlebury, what decisions, if any, can be made to enhance the role of the arts at the College?

Students and faculty remarked that the issue is not to challenge the prestige or success of other departments, but to ensure that all College departments have the resources, approval and general wherewithal to become equally exemplary. In some cases, the issue will be how arts programs can better imitate the success of the athletic department.

The simplest way to account for empty seats at arts events is to extol the virtue of advertising. Every Middlebury student is aware of the effort the athletic department puts into making students aware of their events through e-mail advertisements for sports related events.

Another way to increase the interest in the arts would be a recruitment program similar to that engaged in by the athletic department. Paul Nelson, professor of political science and program head for the Middlebury College Concert Series inquired, "What would Middlebury be like if we recruited arts students?" Clemmons, sharing Nelson's enthusiasm for the arts, commented, "Middlebury would be enhanced if we were to recruit singers."

On the other hand, Professor of Art History and Architecture John Hunisak said, "The quality of the [art and art history] program would diminish if we recruited [students]." Joined by Vitercik and others, Hunisak argued that the virtue of many Middlebury arts majors is that they did not intend to major in the arts.

As opposed to more focused conservatory students, Middlebury arts majors are well rounded, and their diverse talents, according to Vitercik, bring to the arts "a unique richness and intelligence."

It cannot be denied that recruiting students more experienced in the arts would generate an increase in the level of talent in the Middlebury arts programs. But if Hunisak and Vitercik are correct, and recruiting more focused students is detrimental to the liberal arts atmosphere, then whatever recruiting policies the athletic departments use may be equally opposed to the liberal arts spirit of Middlebury as well.

Potential Cures for Probable Causes

Another potential cure is changing the current arts requirements. Students at the College are required to take seven out of eight distribution requirements, one of which is in arts. While involvement in a single theater production will satisfy the requirement, it takes three semesters of involvement in a music-related activity to satisfy it. If three semesters were reduced to one, students tentative about involvement in music might sign up.

Clemmons said, "Students don't get credit for the enormous amount of time they spend with their music," and giving credit "says we value our music programs."

The difficulty is that distribution requirements usually entail faculty instruction, as opposed to the physical education requirements that, being less formal, can be satisfied by student-led activities. The benefits of granting informal groups credit, after two semesters of involvement (the extra semester replacing the presence of faculty), lies in the difference between involvement in arts classes and in arts activities.

More than participation in a

(see Students, page 5)

SGA Briefs

By Becky Ruby
Staff Writer

Self-Scheduled Exams to be Presented to Faculty

SGA President Ben Johns '01 reported that he plans to present the SGA's self-scheduled exams proposal before Middlebury College faculty members this week to ask for their input, which will allow the SGA to fine-tune its proposal. He was unable to present it at Monday's faculty meeting due to extenuating circumstances. The proposal will be voted on at the faculty meeting in April.

SGA Supports JC Room Draw Proposal

Justin Drechsler '02 spoke to the SGA regarding his Room Draw 2001 proposal, stating that Junior Counselors (JCs) deserve preferential room draw numbers, which has traditionally been used to thank them for their unpaid service to the Middlebury College community. The proposal asks that JCs be given 10 extra chips per group for block draw and that they have preferred choice for all rooms in regular room draw, regardless of their commons affiliation. Drechsler said that 30 of the first 60 room draw numbers have traditionally been reserved for JCs. In addition, he said that the number of chips JCs would receive for block draw in the proposal (10) was based on the number of chips needed to increase a group's odds from 33 percent to 50 percent on an average house. The SGA voted to support the proposal, which will now be sent to Residential Systems Coordinator Karu Kozuma.

SGA Divided on Cultures and Civilization Requirement

The SGA voted to send a statement to Monday's faculty meeting regarding the proposed Cultures and Civilizations requirement changes by the Educational Affairs Committee. The statement explains that the SGA still remains divided on the best solution for the Cultures and Civilizations requirements, despite discussions on the issue at several recent meetings. The SGA stated that this division was indicative of the diverse set of opinions of the student body,and that it encourages the faculty to explore further options regarding the requirements. Johns was to present the statement at the upcoming faculty meeting but due to extenuating circumstances, discussion of the requirements was tabled until the next faculty meeting, scheduled for April 12.

Senate Position Filled

Kevin Sullivan '04.5 was elected to the position of Feb senator.

Chronicle Article Publicizes Clash Between Student Activists

(continued from page 1)
an invitation to all interested parties on behalf of himself and Schoelzel to participate in an informal discussion of the EQ proposal Thursday, March 15.

The discussion, which took place at the Crest Room, was designed to find common ground on a deeply divisive issue for campus environmentalists, according to EQ members Gore and Ben Brouwer '04. Only two other students beside Brouwer and Gore, one of them Schoelzel, attended the meeting. The small group discussed their thoughts on the proposal and their enviromental views, said Brouwer.

"It gave me more perspective on the environmental scene on campus," admitting that both he and Gore were first-year students. "We have no understanding of how things are done, what people are trying to do [in regards to environmental issues]. While what we did took the wrong approach, it did accomplish one thing – to get [awareness of the environmental implications of SUVs] in the public eye."

"We always had the intention of changing [the proposal] if people weren't going to accept it. There are other ways to approach the issue," he went on to say.

The modified proposal stated that while "Middlebury College has made a philosophical commitment to environmental excellence… this commitment seems to be nonexistent in the field of transportation." It resolved that the College implement a free bicycle program on campus, weekend shuttles to the Rikert Touring Center and the Snow Bowl, as well as further innovations such as making "current carpooling resources like the Ride Board more effective" and initiating a "car sharing program into which students pay into a pool and are allowed to use common cars." Absent from the altered proposal was any mention of banning SUVs from campus lots.

"We're working more on emphasizing alternative solutions instead of bans," Brouwer said. "We're being more realistic. Being radical for the sake of being radical is pointless." EQ will present the proposal to the EC at that group's meeting tomorrow afternoon.

SUVs Against Pants: The Campaign Goes National

EQ received attention from the trade publication *The Chronicle of Higher Education,* a weekly newspaper that caters especially to college administrators and faculty. *The Chronicle* featured the anti-SUV campaign, as well as the counter-campaign to "ban pants" that immediately followed it, in its March 13 "Short Subject" section.

The article described the key aspects of EQ's campaign, including the mock ticketing of SUVs and the accompanying slogans written in chalk on College sidewalks and buildings. It also highlighted the reaction to the campaign from Middlebury students, mentioning in particular the movement to "ban pants" from campus.

Peter Morgan '01, who was identified as the "press liaison for the anti-pants people" in the article, said he felt he and his associates had been misrepresented in *The Chronicle* article. He emphasized that he told the interviewer that neither he nor other "ban pants" participants owned SUVs, and did not wish to "detract from the seriousness" of EQ's campaign by launching a counter-reaction.

Morgan was quoted as saying "Pants hold in 40 percent of a person's heat ... This loss of heat has lead to a dying off of the Yak population of Outer Mongolia, depriving Mongolian herdsmen of their primary food staple and causing the deaths of countless Mongolian children." Morgan admitted the comments were slightly "facetious," but meant in the general spirit of the movement. He said participants in the movement "overlapped with members of the Ultimate Frisbee team."

Brian McQuade

Three of the many SUVs on campus sit parked outside Carr Hall on College Street while another drives by.

Brouwer was critical of the coverage, but for different reasons. "It was put in the light news section [of *The Chronicle*]," Brouwer said. "The line of questioning made me expect something more serious."

Director of Public Affairs Phil Benoit wrote in an e-mail Tuesday saying, "The article probably captured *The Chronicle's* attention both because of the approach of EQ in handing out citations to SUV drivers, and because it sparked a counter campaign." He also mentioned, "It adds interest and it offers a perspective on how at least some on campus are responding to the effort. Humor helps get stories into *The Chronicle's* 'Short Subjects' section."

Council to Study 'State of Environment'

By Julie Shumway
Staff Writer

Determined to move Middlebury College along the path of environmental sustainability, the Environmental Council (EC) recently announced its intent to publish its "State of the Environment" report at the March 14 meeting of the group.

The report, which will most likely be published in January of 2002, is the second report of its kind since Middlebury College's "Pathways to a Green Campus" encouraged its creation.

In 1995, the Middlebury College environmental community published "Pathways to a Green Campus" as a way to stimulate more "earth-friendly" initiatives. One recommendation was the development of a campus audit performed every few years as a way of marking the progress made in these initiatives.

The first "State of the Environment" report came out in 1998 with a detailed analysis of such topics as College land uses and composition (percentage forested, percentage protected, and so forth), dining services, water usage, paper waste and transportation. This report, in tandem with the soon-to-be-published second report, will serve as an indicator of how far the community has come and what still needs to be done.

Unfortunately, said Environmental Coordinator Amy Seif, the 1998 study has served as more of a resource for other schools. "We serve as a role model in that way," which is also beneficial, she explained Tuesday.

However, the true goal of the report is to help members of the Middlebury College community. The EC's goal with this second report is to create a user-friendly, well-disseminated piece of relevant information for the College community to utilize.

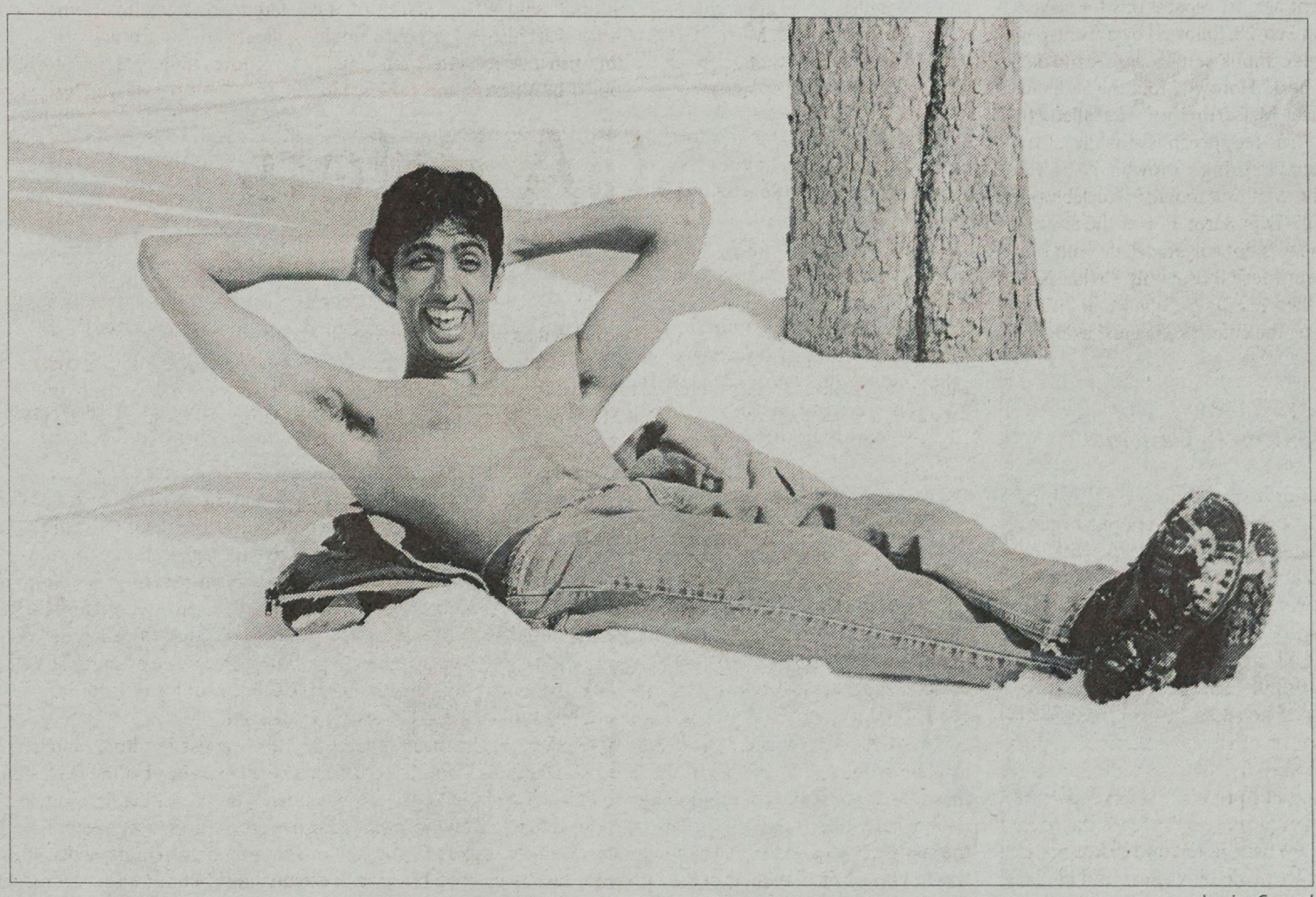
The second report will focus on the issue of global climate change; specifically emphasizing energy and water use, recycling and composting and transportation.

Another topic of interest will be transportation of purchased goods, to determine how far items the college buys have to travel before they reach the community.

To do this, members of the EC will split up and analyze material collected across the campus. This means some groups can expect phone calls from members of EC in the near future, Seif warns with a smile.

Information regarding the EC's objectives, and an electronic version of the first State of the Environment Report, can be found at http://www.middlebury.edu/~enviroc.

Snow Fear



Louisa Conrad

Sprawled across the icy landscape, *Ameer Qalbani '04 taunts what remains of winter. While not all Middlebury students were so bold, many found ways to enjoy the recent sunshine and spring weather in between mid-terms and classes.*

Christensen Champions Universal Accessibility as 'Peak' Goal

(continued from page 1)

Other cases involve more temporary disabilities, like a student two years ago who shattered his writing hand on a Middlebury Outdoor Orientation trip just one week before the start of classes.

Despite the wide range of disabilities represented in the College's undergraduate student body, the common thread connecting them is, as Christensen said, "they're like every other Middlebury student...they're smart."

Disabled students are not as rare as one might expect. Christensen noted that one in 19 undergraduates is receiving aid from the ADA office, truly a "statistically significant population."

Among them are 66 with learning disabilities, 10 with dyslexia, 24 with Attention Deficit Disorder, 11 with psychological disabilities and three with mobility impairments. An additional 12 have medical disabilities, three have sight impairments and one has a hearing impairment.

Along with catering to the everyday needs and concerns of these students, Christensen envisions a two-fold, overarching goal for her office: raising community awareness about disabilities, thereby eliminating the stigma associated with having an impairment and integrating the goal of universal accessibility into planning for College buildings.

You Are Not Alone

"I like people to know [that one in 19 Middlebury students has a disability] because it's not something you talk about normally," said Christensen. For a student with dyslexia who needs extra time to complete an exam, such a request does not come as "a surprise or something that stigmatizes you with the professor," she continued, explaining when she talks to professors, often there are several students in the class with special needs.

"The [disabilities] are legitimate and documented," she said, "and students are not trying to gain an unfair advantage."

As for the day-to-day challenges of the classroom, students with disabilities hold their own. "Most of my students are getting [extra] help two afternoons out of the semester," Christensen remarked. "We are not talking about a series of unfair advantages. We're talking about an extra 20 minutes to make sure that a student with dyslexia or a visual impairment reads the question correctly." The bottom line, she said, is that "if you don't know the answer, you don't know the answer."

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To reassure disabled students that "they're not alone," as well as to raise community awareness about the disabled student population, the ADA office has revamped its Website, a project slated to be completed next week.

Christensen is also exploring the possibility of incorporating language into admissions materials that details the number of disabled students at the College, along with including students with visible disabilities in view book photographs.

Admissions publications were spread across Christensen's desk at an interview Friday as she attempted to identify places where mention of students with disabilities could be incorporated.

Katie Samson's Story

While Christensen's efforts are essential to creating a welcoming community, disabled students themselves can also play a part in promoting awareness.

Katie Samson '02.5 returned "home" to Middlebury this semester, just one year after a sledding accident left her paralyzed from the chest down. This fall, she took classes at Villanova University in Pennsylvania, near her hometown.

With her wheelchair equipped with snow tires and an inspiring will to resume where she left off, Samson said she is "adapting to getting around in an accessible van, using door openers and [staying on] flat surfaces."

"I have been so impressed with everything," she said, praising both Christensen and facilities management for making accommodations for her return.

Christensen ensured that her classes were located in Bicentennial Hall and Sunderland Language Center, two of the more accessible buildings on campus, and coordinated the installation of automatic door openers both in her off- campus apartment and in various campus buildings. Samson said she "carries a 'garage door opener'" to activate the automatic doors.

She advocates better planning of events, citing an example of a band this weekend that played in Pearsons Hall, which is inaccessible to the handicapped. "If there is entertainment happening," she said, "you don't want to cut anybody off from it."

In addition, she mentioned the "minor little shafts you get" stemming from buildings that are accessible but not in the same way as they are to the non-disabled population.

She said she has to "weave through a dirty, grungy kitchen" to enter Hamlin and Freeman dining halls. Awareness of handicapped accessibility is therefore key in new construction that has taken the campus by storm in the past decade.

Despite the challenges, though, Samson said she's delighted to be back and is "going with the flow."

ADA as College 'Peak of Excellence': Facilities Planning

With regard to campus accessibility, Christensen said she is of "two minds."

She is "exceptionally proud of Facilities Planning for responding to [Samson's] return, both the effort and financial resources and the administrative support that came by it." But "we also need to make architects aware of our requirement," she said.

Environmental awareness is a designated "peak of excellence" at the College, but "we [at ADA] don't have that endorsement."

The extra step that Christensen envisions is transforming universal accessibility into an "institutional value, an institutional goal." Truth be told, at present "we are building things that don't do what they should."

Take Bicentennial Hall, for example: a state-of-the-art facility that cost in excess of $50 million but is not equipped with automatic door openers at every entrance, Christensen pointed out.

A 50-year-old student at the summer Middlebury Language Schools who suffers from an early onset of arthritis cannot open the doors, Christensen laments.

Bicentennial Hall Room 216, she said, "has state of the art touch screens but not enough wheelchair cutouts."

As Director of Public Affairs Phil Benoit said, "It's the difference between compliance and going the extra mile."

Christensen stressed, "It's not just important to meet the code, but to...move towards an institutional value of universal access."

Disabilities in the Institutional Diversity Equation

Associate Provost for Institutional Diversity Roman Graf will oversee the compilation of a comprehensive diversity action plan this spring, which will represent the collaborative effort of 42 students, faculty and staff members divided into seven committees.

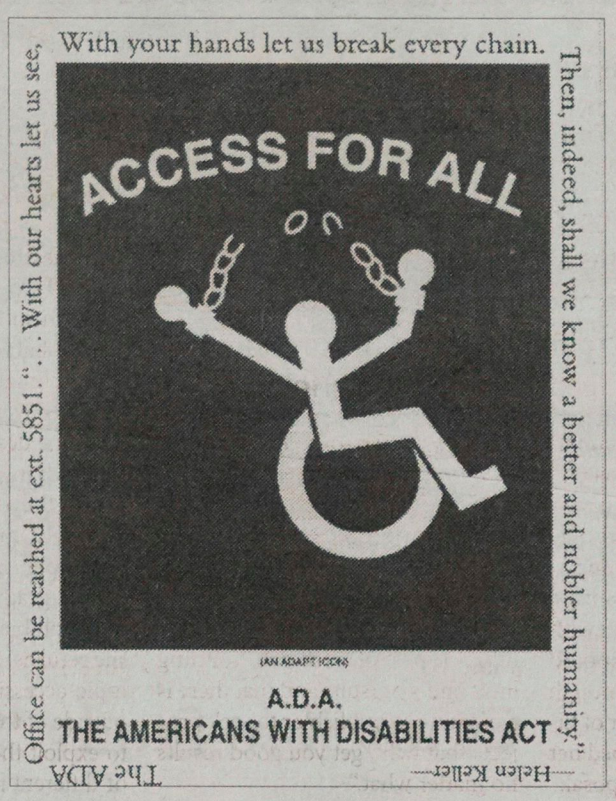
The Diversity Advisory Board, which is the name given to the collective effort, counts among its committees one on ADA issues, Graf said.

Associate Dean of Student Affairs Kathy Foley-Giorgio chairs the ADA committee, which she said is charged with "reviewing the structure of delivering ADA services and how we are making accommodations for students with disabilities in all aspects of campus life and planning."

In weekly meetings that began Feb. 19, the committee has focused on student issues, but Foley-Giorgio said they may expand their scope of analysis to include faculty and staff disabilities as well. This is currently overseen by the Human Resources Department.

"Under Roman [Graf's] umbrella, this is an issue," she affirmed. The committee will channel its energy into "raising awareness about disabilities... and how they use the different tools and resources to accomplish the same end [as the rest of the student body]."

Thus far the committee has given Foley-Giorgio a "renewed appreciation for what students are dealing with in that arena."


With your hands let us break every chain.
Then, indeed, shall we know a better and nobler humanity."
Helen Keller
ACCESS FOR ALL
A.D.A.
THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT
The ADA
Office can be reached at ext. 5851. "...With our hearts let us see,

What is the ADA?

Signed into law by President George Bush on July 26, 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) went into full effect by 1992. The act is a wide-ranging piece of legislation that is intended to make American society more accessible to people with disabilities.

The ADA defines the "disability" as "a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such individual, a record of such an impairment or being regarded has having such an impairment."

It is divided into five separate titles, including employment, public services, public accommodations, telecommunications and miscellaneous.

At the college level, the ADA covers students with a wide array of disabilities and impairments. Middlebury College ADA Coordinator Elizabeth Christensen points out that epilepsy and diabetes fall under the ADA in addition to mobility impairments, hearing or vision difficulties and psychological disabilities.

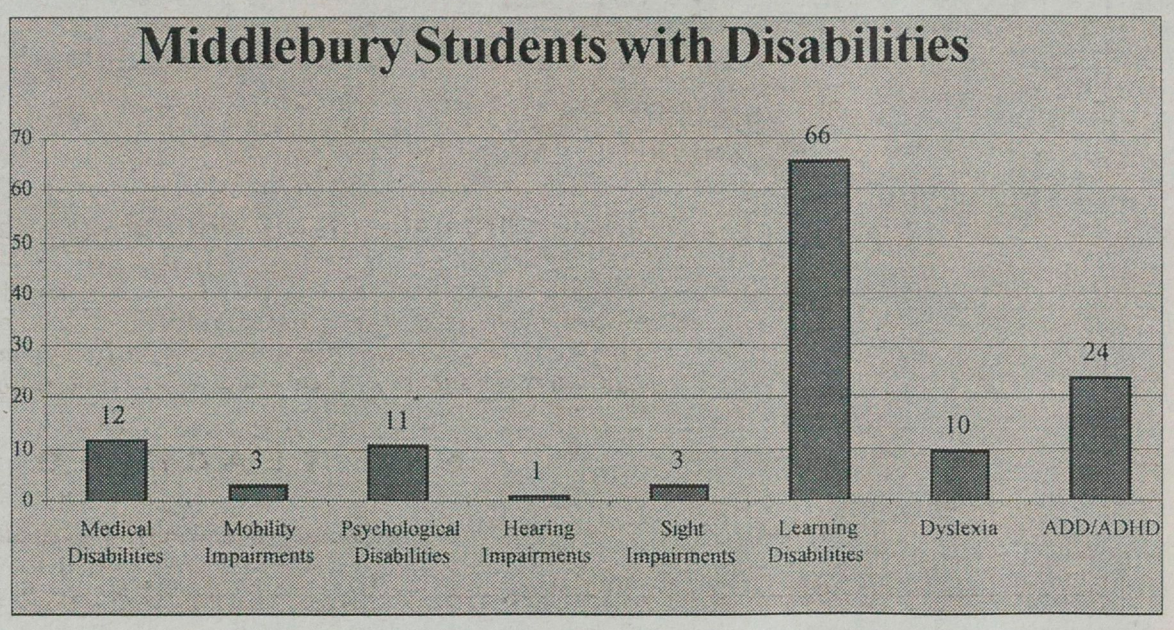
Students who are suffering from clinical depression and are taking prescription medications are also eligible for assistance, among many other students suffering from debilitating impairments.

Source: ADA Document Center and Tri Online.

Disabilities per Class

Class of 2000.5: 3
Class of 2001: 29
Class of 2002: 37
Class of 2003: 29
Class of 2004: 19

—Devin Zatorski, News Editor



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Students and Professors Comment on Lack of Art Resources

(continued from page 2)
course, student activities cultivate a sense of belonging and investment in the College, a feeling that is more often inspired by athletic activities on campus. In many ways, the promotion of informal activities is the key to the success of the arts at Middlebury.

The final issue is that of funding. While Vitercik is enthusiastic about the administration's funding, and Hunisak admits to not knowing how extra annual funds could be spent, many students, joined by Clemmons, have grievances that might be ameliorated by extra funds. To begin with, Wright Theater and the Johnson have received fewer repairs than they require.

Initially, the studio arts, art and art history departments were guaranteed either offices or classrooms in the Center of the Arts (CFA) or a $3 million renovation of Johnson. The administration failed to fulfill this promise, leaving the departments with what Hunisak calls "inadequate teaching space."

Wright Theater shares Johnson's state of disrepair, with broken seats, chipped paint and poor equipment. The administration has drawn up "long-range plans" for both buildings, said Hunisak.

A storage room for the theater department's costumes is in the attic of Wright, where, according to Frank Labovitz '01, dust, dirt and exposed wires have damaged costumes and props.

Similarly, Susan Parsons '01 attests that storage space used for instruments in the CFA is unorganized and poorly utilized, resulting in the damage of many instruments. Parsons believes that "the quality of the instruments used by the orchestra is highly inadequate."

Parsons said the instruments at her public high school, also located in Vermont, were of a higher caliber than those used by Middlebury College.

Andy Mitton '01 said there is very little rehearsal space for theater at Middlebury. As a result, weekly and nightly rehearsals are scheduled in lounges across campus, angering other student groups that would like to share the lounge space.

Whitney Robinson '01 confirms the high quality of the dance studios at the CFA but said that "unless you wait until 11 p.m. on a lucky day, the rooms are booked and it is difficult to find spaces to practice in.

The financial difficulties are typical hardships endured by small departments at a small college but are difficulties threatening the level of excellence of the arts departments. Or, in the case of the orchestral instruments and the costume attic, damaging equipment.

To say that Middlebury's arts programs could benefit from more attention or funding, is not to say that they are not competitive departments. Hunisak believes that Middlebury's facilities are superior to most other liberal arts colleges, including those of his alma mater, Williams College.

Clemmons, whose viewpoints are more radical, points to Kenyon, Beloit and Oberlin colleges, and said "music is a step-child at Middlebury."

Somewhere between these viewpoints lies the notion that while there is room for improvement of the arts at Middlebury, there are paths open for faculty, students and administrators to make improvements.

Watson Fellows Detail Upcoming Research Projects

(continued from page 1)
more ways to "nurture the imagination, both past and future dreams," as there is too much "talk on this campus, action seems far less tangible."

She reflected that it "takes personal grounding to make things real" and hopes to continue this "grounding" process through her Watson.

Holmberg urged the community to join her in "following what love tells me to do because it' s stronger than anything else." She advised others to act upon their sense of right and said "Integrity is an amazing source of energy coming from the heart that allows you to wander off academically, leisurely and worldly,and allows you to find what you really want to do."

Holmberg recalled applying to the Watson Fellowship as something that will stay with her for the rest of her life. She recounted seeing friends come up with "fantastic ideas"and will remember many of them by their dreams.

Harper, whose work istitled "Exploring the Diversity of Tropical Frogs: Tanzinia, Guyana, and Thailand," attributes her exploration in biology to exposure of the scientific community made possible by Middlebury faculty, particularly researching tropical marine biology with Janie Wulff, an assistant in biology instruction, in Panama one Winter Term.

> **The physical and mental connections that one experiences from experiences while traveling from rural to urban life are incredible.**
>
> **—Molly Holmberg '01**

This opened up the "world outside of humans" to that of sponges, fish and other aquatic organisms.

She recalled doing research with acclaimed biologists, being exposed to the scientific community through people like Assistant Professor of Biology Helen Young, who helped her brainstorm ideas for her proposal.

She praised Middlebury for introducing her to a good scope for multiple areas and facilitating her long-term interests in amphibians, particularly frogs.

Harper applauded the foundation for its "investment in the person more than the project." She said it allows people to "make the most of the project because they feel a responsibility to prove that the investment is worthwhile, and how strong the feeling is when one knows that someone believes in you."

Harper understands that many other types of research funding limit one' s pursuits and that there is a pressure to publish or to seek projects that will "get you good results no matter what."

Such research, according to Harper,"doesn t really foster the opportunity to do something that you feel good about, and most deplorably, limits originality. The Watson is so great because it really stimulates and encourages curiosity."

Harper described the relevance of monitoring amphibian declines because "these endangerments are occurring all over the world. There are complicated factors including climate change due to global warming that are affecting climate patterns that could someday affect an entire population."She described the importance of studying environmental cues where the frogs populate as they may hold implications for humans.

Harper said she would like to pursue graduate work in the study of amphibians and reptiles, when she returns. She hopes to make this topic accessible to the community outside of the "scientific world" and to exploit the "freedom to use a lot of different means to communicate research" through field guides, travel guides, children's books and conservation material.

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Vermont House Casts Preliminary Vote to Ban Gay Marriage

By Amy Brais
Staff Writer

On Friday, March 16, the Vermont House voted to officially ban gay and lesbian marriage. This came on the heels of Thursday night's reportedly emotionally charged debate in the House on the topic. After the debate, which consisted primarily of Democratic lawmakers sympathetic to the gay and lesbian cause relating personal testimonies and opinions to the crowd, the House voted 84-55 against homosexual marriage. This vote, though not official, marked the path of things to come.

Technically, the vote to explicitly ban homosexual marriages in Vermont accomplished nothing. Vermont's Civil Union Law affords a litany of benefits to same-sex couples. Under the civil union act homosexual couples are allowed all state benefits and protections allotted to married heterosexual couples. They are allowed to do things such as sign for each other on important documents, decide burial procedures and receive commercial couple discounts and benefits. In short under a civil union homosexual couples enjoy many of the same perks as married heterosexuals. However, a civil union is not defined as a marriage and homosexual marriages have never been legal in Vermont.

What Friday's vote accomplished was a projection of anti-homosexual marriage sentiment within the House. Many in support of civil unions and all of its benefits found the vote banning homosexual marriage to be redundant and wholly unnecessary. Those that felt this measure was unnecessary felt that the Civil Union Law was clear in terms of the illegality of same-sex marriage, as it discusses the topic three times. Vermonters find a direct correlation between the vote on Friday and the dramatic increase in Republicans in the House. Republicans hold the House majority in Vermont for the first time in 14 years. This is arguably a result of the conservative backlash caused by last year's Civil Union Law.

Since the law passed a year ago the House Judiciary Committee met regularly to engage in a discussion about how to expand and improve the law. They also met to discuss the possibility of the law's repeal. Oddly enough opponents of the law look to expand and repeal it. They see the Civil Union Law as granting special privileges to gays and lesbians, arguing that homosexual couples bound together under a civil union have greater rights than a heterosexual couple bound together under marriage. Opponents would look to either repeal this allegedly unequal law all together or to expand the law to include other combinations of relationships. For example, an expanded law could accommodate special family units with a civil union if they were to live together, such as a grandmother and a grandson. This would greatly redefine the idea behind a civil union with that of the idea behind marriage, while maintaining the shared benefits and granting them to others. Conversely, proponents of the Civil Union Law look to expand it in another direction to include gay marriages. After Friday's vote this idea does not seem likely to win the House's support.

What Friday's vote accomplished was a projection of anti-homosexual marriage sentiment within the House.

Though the Republicans may control the House, they do not control the Vermont Senate. Vermont re-elected Governor Howard Dean (D) and the Senate does not appear to have banning gay marriages on top priority. Governor Dean and the Senate criticize the vote as being politically motivated. Dean told *The Burlington Free Press*, "I think it's simply politically motivated...I think, frankly, until an Act 60 reform bill passes, they ought to spend their time on it and not on politics."

Dean's comment underscores the superficiality of Friday's vote and alludes to a possible moderate approach to this heated topic in the future.

CSO

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Adirondack House~443.5100
www.middlebury.edu/~cso/

HOT INTERNSHIPS

Friday, March 23, 5:00 Attn: JUNIORS
RHBrown/Class of '62 Summer Internship Proposal collection deadline
- Between 14-18 awards of $3000 each!

Friday, April 6, 5:00 Attn: 01.5, 02, 03, 04
Felton Family Summer Internship Fund Proposal collection deadline
- Awarded to one student - $1500

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- March 19 - 30: West Coast
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Monday, April 9
Cycle IV Resume Collection DEADLINE
- Apply online on MoJo
- Another fantastic selection of jobs and internships

DISCUSSIONS/INFORMATIONAL SESSIONS

Wed., March 21, 4:30, BiHall 338
- Mass. Community Water Watch/AmeriCorps
  A great opportunity to make a difference in the environmental non-profit field.

Fri., April 6, 4:30, BiHall 104
- Communications Career Conversation with Justin Racz '97 and Ryan D'Agostino '96.5
  An interactive discussion about making a living as a creative person - should be fun and informative.

~ See MoJo calendar for details ~

WEBSITE OF THE WEEK

Creative Talent Management
- *film/TV job listing* -
Stop by CSO for the password!
http://www.ctMasterlist.com

STATE

By Adam Waite
Staff Writer

Senator Leahy Fights to Reduce Amount of Mercury in Fish

Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) introduced a bill that would reduce the maximum allowable level of mercury in seafood. *The Rutland Herald* reports that Leahy thinks that under the current regulations newborns are in danger of neurological problems related to the presence of mercury from seafood in the mother's diet. The current allowable level of methyl mercury is one part per million, but would be reduced to a "tolerance level" based on the latest scientific evidence. The Mercury-Safe Seafood Act would also result in the resumption of mercury testing of domestic catches—a practice that ended in 1998. The testing would be funded by $3 million per year for the next 10 years. The bill, which is cosponsored by Sen. Tom Harkin (D-Iowa) cites the Center for Disease Control study that shows that ten percent of women of childbearing age who eat fish risk giving birth to children with neurological problems. Although current Environmental Protection Agency standards are five times stricter than current Food and Drug Administration (FDA) standards, they issued an advisory in January warning the women at risk of eating king mackerel, tilefish, shark, and swordfish. The FDA will release findings from its own study on mercury in fish this spring.

2000 Census Being Used for Reapportionment of Municipalities

The 2000 census is being put to use in Vermont's reapportionment process. *The Rutland Herald* stated that the state's 30 senate districts and 150 house districts are up for grab as areas that have experienced rapid population growth since the last reapportionment, following the 1990 census, expect to gain seats at the expense of areas that have grown at a lesser rate. Reapportionment is especially important due to the increase and decreases in power that is wielded in Montpelier by a particular district as a result of the process. Max Kempner, chair of the board that will recommend a reapportionment plan to the legislature, said that population is not the only consideration, as church and school locations, historic boundaries and natural features are all important. "Where do the mountains run? You don't want a mountain range running down the middle of the district," said Kempner in *The Herald*. According to the new census, Vermont has 608,827 citizens, so to achieve equal representation, each senator would represent 20,294 and each representative would represent 4,059. Parts of Southern Vermont and the Northeast Kingdom are expected to lose seats to rapidly growing areas, especially Chittenden County.

Vt. House Speaker Freed Proposes to Raise Sales Tax and Lower Property Tax

House Speaker Walter Freed (R-Dorset) wants to raise the state sales tax to 6 percent in order to ease property taxes. Currently The Burlington Free Press reports that the state sales tax is 5 percent. Freed said, "I have talked about consumption taxes for years. I still believe the public would rather have less property tax and have the burden on the sales tax." According to Freed, the change would result in $46 million for school funding. The plan faces stern opposition from many fronts including the National Federation of Independent Businesses in Vermont. Will Adams, speaking for the organization, said that it would be harmful to poor Vermonters who are forced to shop in-state and small businesses that compete with New Hampshire and Internet retailers. He said, "We will pull out all the stops to stop it." Under Freed's plan, the basic student grant would increase from $5,200 to $6,500 using money from the increased sales tax and $35 million from other taxes. His plan would eliminate the sharing pool that is funded when towns raise extra money for their own schools. Thus, the "gold towns," towns that benefit most from Act 60 for school funding, would be able to keep all property tax revenue raised beyond the $6,500 level. Sen. Cheryl Rivers (D-Windsor) and chair of the senate finance committee said that she would not support the Freed bill, adding, "I certainly wouldn't be interested in raising the sales tax for something unconstitutional."

Benefit Concert Brings Community Action Home to Middlebury

By Julie Samara
Staff Writer

Packs of Middlebury students maneuvered their way into Pearsons Lounge Saturday night to hear the upbeat sounds of Skama Sutra. Filled with spastic limbs and ska beats, the concert hardly resembled a benefit event.

Joining in the fun came at the small fee of $2, with all proceeds donated to ACCAG.

"What's ACCAG?" asked a number of baffled fans at the door, checking their pockets for cash.

The Addison County Community Action Group – "a good cause" – they were told. As its sprawling acronym suggests, this community-based organization offers an incredible variety of emergency, housing and self-help services to the county's low-income population.

Saturday night's Cook Commons-sponsored benefit is only one instance of the developing relationship between Middlebury College and the community at large.

Homelessness in Vermont

Nestled between stately buildings of granite with only scenic mountain views in sight, we are easily unaware that 4,000 Vermonters went homeless last year. The statistics are hard to fathom. As a reminder of the need for social justice, homeless Vermonters were remembered by name at a December candlelight vigil in Burlington: "Janet, a 26-year-old mother who works at a local printing company but can't afford to keep her own apartment and Vic, who served two tours of duty in Vietnam and suffers from post-traumatic shock disorder." These were just a couple of the stories shared.

There is no single "face" of homelessness – the problem of making a livable wage has a much broader scope. In an opinion-editorial essay published in The *Burlington Free Press* May 7, 2000, Rita Markley, President McCardell's forerunner as "Vermonter of the Year" and executive director of Burlington's Committee on Temporary Shelter, explained that homelessness was comparatively rare just 20 years ago.

> It is easy for Middlebury students to stay within the physical and mental limits of the College in terms of awareness of lower income citizens in Middlebury and Addison Country. I think the key here is awareness.
>
> —Ginny Hunt '03

"Unfortunately, our relatively modest housing surplus eroded considerably during the late 1970s. By 1985, there was an affordable housing shortage of 3.3 million units. Between 1991 and 1995, this housing gap widened even further to a shortage of 4.4 million units," according to a 1998 national study by the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities.

Most of us are too young to remember the world before emergency shelters had become standard in most communities, Markley noted. Nearly half of the working poor in this country currently spend more than 50 percent of their income on rent, perpetuating this widespread need for temporary shelter and emergency services.

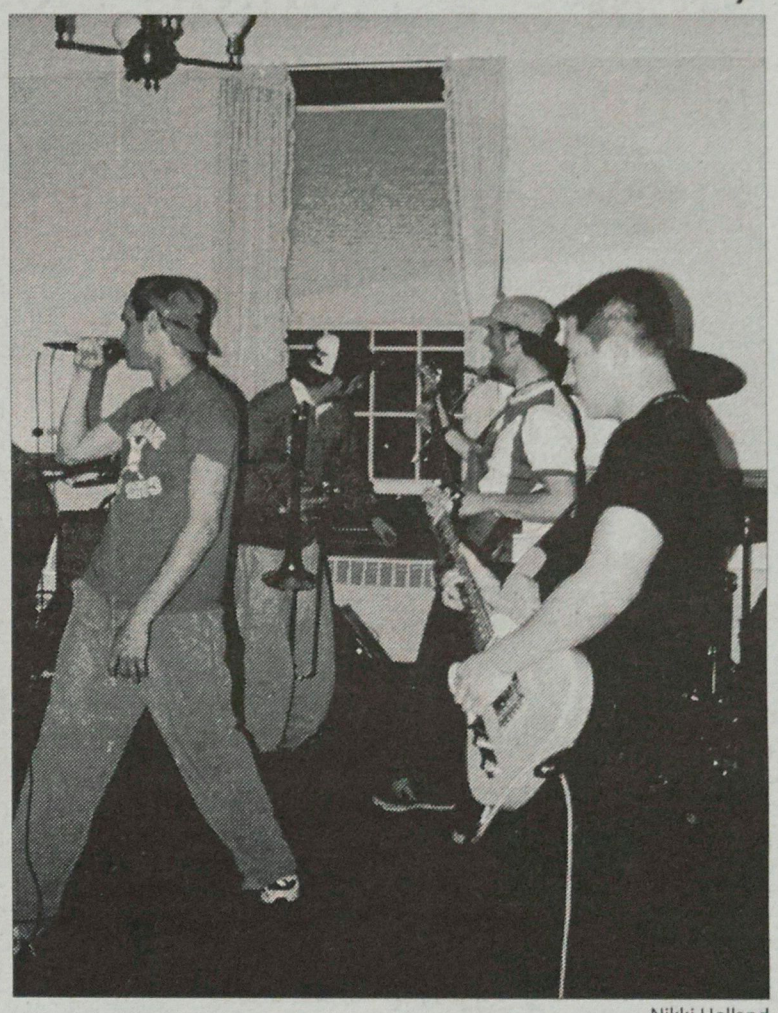
Efforts in Addison County: Past, Present and Future

Affordable housing is a significant issue even beyond Chittenden County, Vermont's most densely populated county, and the one that receives the majority of the state's funding for emergency services. There is such a high demand for shelter space that shelter residents are eventually bumped out of Burlington facilities, "spilling over" into Addison County.

ACCAG, with shelter use last year up 25 percent from a 46 percent increase the year before, represents one of the strongest resources for the "poorest of the poor" in this region, said Director Jeanne Montross, explaining the organization's broad range of projects and clientele.

Montross, director of ACCAG since November, sees Addison County as a "rural county filled with impoverished people." On the level of community awareness, Montross remarked, "We don't notice the level of need because we don't see the homeless congregated on the streets as we would in a city."

ACCAG started as a small grassroots organization in 1965 and currently coordinates a number of services, including a thrift shop, foodshelf and an emergency shelter to help meet the day-to-day needs of the county's low-income population. Residents of Addison County can count on ACCAG for food, clothing, utility and medical needs, transportation and even rent and housing. The Wheels-to-Work program, for example, helps those getting off welfare get to work. ACCAG also offers nutrition counseling as well as help applying for food stamps and managing finances.



Nikki Holland

Celebrating with style, ska band Skama Sutra performed for a packed crowd Saturday night in Pearsons to benefit ACCAG.

Projects have multiplied in recent years to include affordable housing units for people making less than 30 percent of the median income. A proposal for a new 17-unit affordable housing project is currently under review.

Other endeavors include a proposal for an organic community garden written by Middlebury student Ginny Hunt '03, who organized the Skama Sutra event as Cook Commons co-chair and worked with ACCAG through her Winter Term class, "The Role of Social Capital in Vermont."

"The class was about social capital – the concept that personal interactions increase the cohesiveness of communities and groups, which, in turn, make these groups and communities better able to make changes," Hunt explained.

Instructor in Economics Jonathan Isham shared, "Students and community members seemed really pleased with the service-learning aspect of the class. For example, we learned from the members of the Middlebury Garden Club about the range of their civic activities of the last 50 years. In addition, class members Susan Ludwick '02, Hallie Trattner '01 and John Rice '01 were able to work with them on documenting and updating some of their achievements."

Hunt chose to work with ACCAG. "In working with Jeanne Montross, we decided that an organic community garden would be an effective and practical way to bring the community together as well as increase environmental awareness. What I quickly discovered was that what ACCAG is and does in the community supersedes any project I could ever work on."

Middlebury's Growing ACCAG Connection

ACCAG's volunteers "make it all happen," according to Montross.

(see Upbeat, page 12)

Brazilian Festivities in Rhythm With Capoeira Beat

By John Morgenstern
Staff Writer

With steady grace, the force of the Brazilian capoeira performers exploded in a display of highly controlled power in Coltrane Lounge on Saturday, March 17. Eleven invigorated Brazilian capoeristas traveled to Middlebury from New York City to enhance the authenticity of Middlebury's second Brazilian Day.

Joselita Oliveira, known as Jô in the world of capoeira, is one cord shy of a master and currently the sole female holding the esteemed rank of 'contra-mestre' in Brazil. Invigorated, the audience crashed their palms together to the beat of the dance as roars of awe resonated from the Adirondack House annex. Seductive energy tamed the room as the artists whirled in the heavy air and elegantly pounced before the entranced eyes of the overflowing crowd.

Beauty, stamina and mental balance guided the capoeira performance as cords to indicate ranks in the hierarchy of the near martial-art style dance dangled from the waists of the capoeristas.

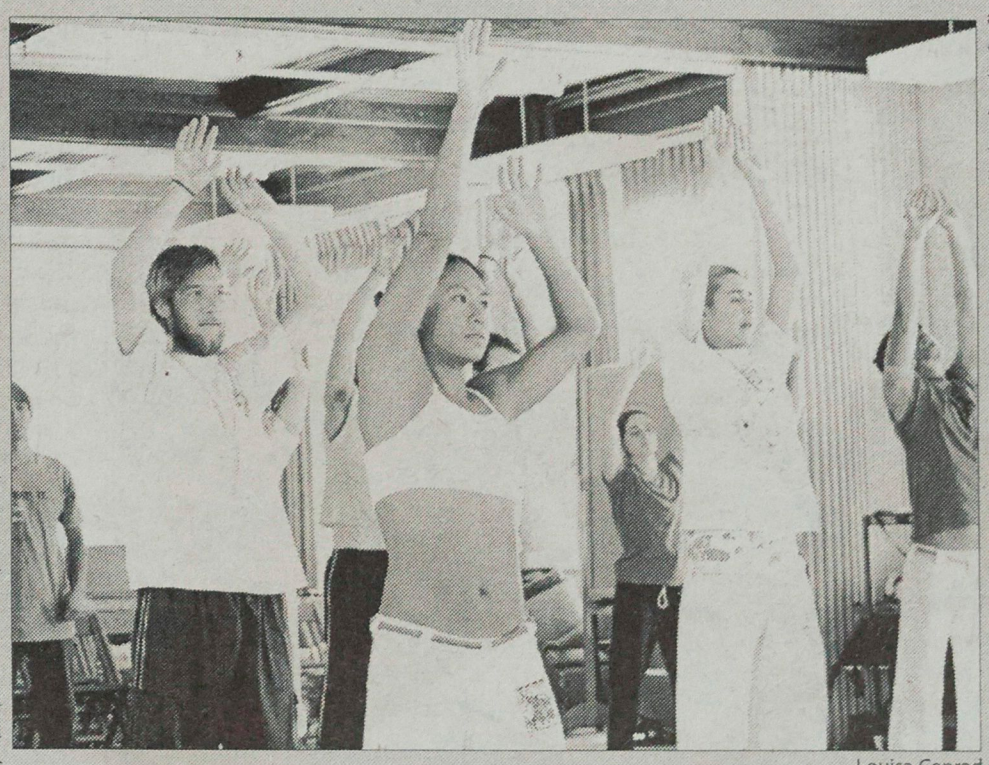
Capoeira, interlaced with aspects of dance, can be dubbed neither a fight nor a game. A capoeira jogo, or game, demonstrates the physical skill and the ability of the capoeristas to share their understanding of the art with others on all stages, articulated Ingrid De León, commons residential advisor of Ross Commons and chief coordinator of Brazilian Day. The Department of Latin American Studies, the Office of Institutional Diversity and the PALANA Center sponsored the events, with the co-sponsorships of Alianza Latinamericana y Caribena (ALC), Organizacion Latinamericana y Espanola (OLE), African-American Alliance (AAA) and Ross Commons.

Incorporated into the festivities, a student workshop in Coltrane Lounge proved to be instructive and highly interactive prior to the choreographed public performance. Festivities culminated in a feast of Brazilian cuisine in Redfield Proctor. A late screening of the film "Tiêta" in Twilight Auditorium officially concluded the day.

"Capoeira's unique history combines Angolan and Brazilian traditions into an imitable style of acrobatics, dance, music and martial arts," explained Maurice Chang '02, president of the recently formed Middlebury Capoeira Circle. A product of African Diaspora, the art thrived in Brazil, adapting African instruments to the uniquely Brazilian dance. Conceptually African though aesthetically Brazilian, the muddled origin of the art seems as speculative as the derivation of the term "capoeira," which borrows from both African dialects and Portuguese.

Creating the image of African slaves working in Brazilian fields, the performance evoked the sense of disorientation experienced by the original designers of the art in their new setting. Seeming to possess some magical qualities, the actor discovered an instrument and began to feel the rhythms of the dance. The music and dance may have developed as a clever way to mask self-defense training amongst the early slaves as culturally

(see Festival, page 10)



Louisa Conrad

Middlebury students participate in a capoeira workshop during Brazilian Day festivities.

What About Bob?

By Bob Wainwright
Sports Editor

For anyone who has ever made the drive from Middlebury to Bates, they will understand what I mean when I say that it is about as much fun as... um, let me think of a really good analogy here. Speaking of which, did you know that in high school I was considered to be the analogy king? No, seriously. I was. It's a big deal you know. Being the analogy king is like being... it's like...um...well, I can't really think of anything right now. What was I talking about?

Ah yes, the tennis team's drive to Bates this weekend. There is really nothing redeeming about it. You drive past gray pastures for six hours and then you are there. Exciting stuff, as you can imagine. About three hours into our trip up, we did pass a dead cat that was lying on top of a snow bank. That was mildly exciting.

The poor thing's black fur looked as though it had been frozen solid. I wonder what happened to it. I suppose Tea Cup (that's what I named it to myself) could have been hit by a car as it crossed the street. The whole thing is kind of odd if you stop to think about it. I mean, usually if a black cat crosses a person's path, it's bad luck for the person. But in this case, it turned out to be bad luck for the black cat. Perhaps Tea Cup's death should serve as a reminder to us all that sometimes superstitions can work in opposite ways, but only on opposite days. (In case you're not familiar with opposite days, those are the days when everything you say is opposite. Like, if I tell you that I despise your guts, I'm really saying that I like you.)

Of course, I'm being facetious about the whole opposite day thing, but honestly, don't you remember when you were young and your mom told you to clean the room but you went outside and played instead? And then, when she asked you why you didn't clean your room, you said to her, "But Mom! It's opposite day! Everything you tell me is opposite." Or was this just me who did that?

Where was I? The Bats trip? What does that mean? Ohhh, the Bates trip. Sorry about that. Perhaps my perpetual digressing has to do with the fact that I've been trying to push the entire thing out of my memory. To drive the six hours to Bates is one thing. Under normal circumstances, one could maneuver one's seat to achieve the optimum comfort level and perhaps throw on some cool Britney Spears or 'N Sync tunes. But the trip that I took was not normal. It occurred in a Middlebury van with eight of my tennis teammates and our two coaches.

To begin with, I had about as

(see Tea Cup, page 11)

'Gravity Stone': Investing in the Future of Science

By Claire Bourne
Features Editor

Outside Warner Hall, under a glistening layer of melting snow, stands a carved, Vermont granite monument with a simple, yet perplexing, inscription:

"This monument has been erected by the Gravity Research Foundation. Roger W. Babson, founder. It is to remind students of the blessings forthcoming when a semi-insulator is discovered in order to harness gravity as a free power and to reduce airplane accidents. 1960."

College Chronicles

Reminiscent of the headstones in the neighboring cemetery that mark the graves of College figures past, the "gravity stone" was donated to Middlebury in 1960 by Roger Babson, a wealthy, New England statistician and economist, as part of his commitment to developing a method to conquer the adverse effects of gravity.

Founder of the Gravity Research Foundation and, in the words of Gamaliel Painter Professor of Physics Frank Winkler, "a financial wizard of types," Babson was obsessed with gravity and "deeply interested in making life pleasanter for humans," explained Janet Guernsey in a letter to the physics department in January 1983.

"Back in the days before WWII, and I assume even before the Great Depression, Roger – who had a good friendship with Thomas Edison – dreamed up the idea that if one could only discover a material which would act as a semi-insulator to the gravitational field, there would be many practical applications of immense benefit to mankind," she continued.

This was the mission of the man behind the inscribed message.

Babson was, according to Guernsey, "an MIT-type engineer in the days when physics was not a requirement for engineering education." When he and Edison stumbled upon the possibility of creating "a gravity insulating" material, they agreed that "their only interest was in the aspects of technical use," she continued.

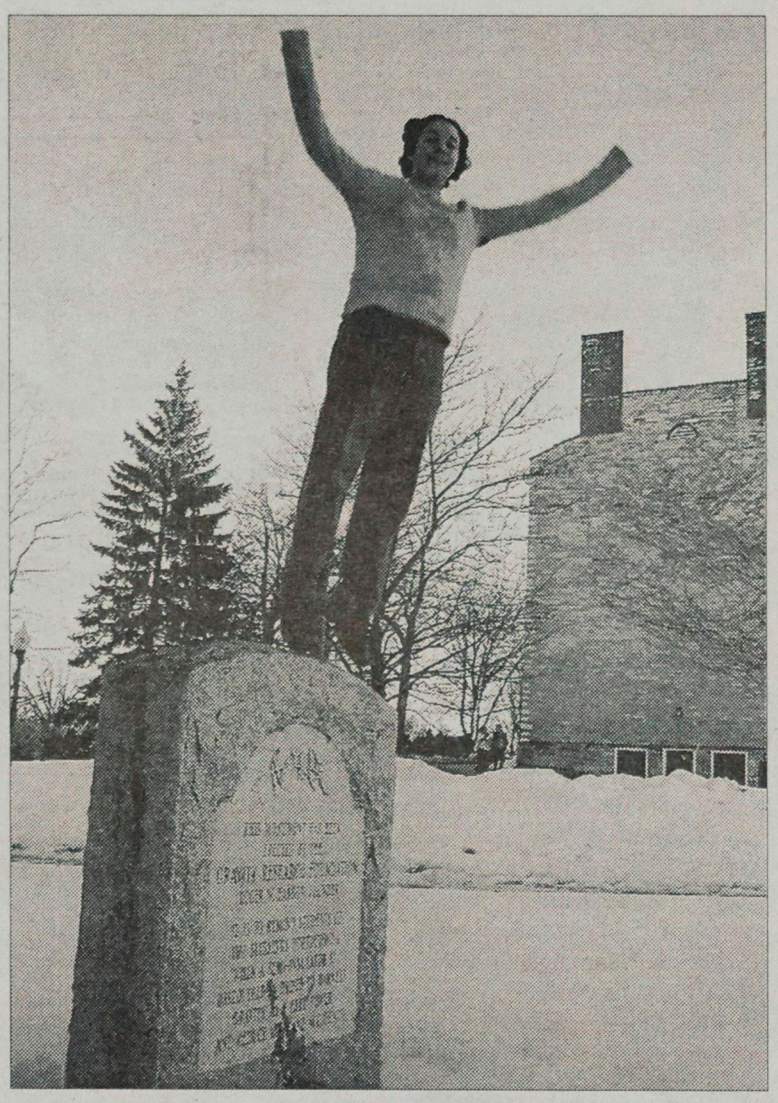
For instance, airplanes covered with "a skin of semi-insulating material" would, in the event of a crash landing, hit the earth lightly with minimal injuries to those on board. In addition, wrote Guernsey, "a little gravity insulator in shoe soles would eliminate that old-age stature decrease which bothers our elders."

When Guernsey moved to Wellesley, Mass., in 1936, Babson "was something of a joke." Though he had predicted the 1929 stock market crash as early as the late 1910s, "the gravity insulator was a subject of much hilarity among local physicists," she continued.

Besides his passion for physics, Babson also founded and endowed the Babson Institute in 1927 – one of the nation's first business schools to train young men for a career in finance – and Webber College in Florida – an institution for women interested in the business sector.

Vocal on the political front, he even ran for U.S. president on the American Prohibition Party ticket in 1940.

Though noble in theory, Babson's endeavor did not initially stimulate a serious response from Middlebury students. A tongue-in-cheek article printed in the Sept. 23, 1960 edition of *The Campus* alluded to an important advantage of the College's latest aesthetic addition – its role as a conversation starter.



Eric Skovsted

Becca Leaphart '03 stays true to her name as she defies the pull of the mysterious "gravity stone" in front of Warner Hall.

Staff writer Ruth Goddard admitted that though "the tombstone [was] not the most cheerful addition to the campus," it provided students with "offbeat conversational gambits."

She continued, "The monument will help keep students from growing old by giving them a purpose in life. All of them will now want to [stay] alive until the semi-insulator is discovered just so they can see how the darn thing works."

In addition to the granite "gravity stone," Babson also endowed the College with 416 shares in the American Agricultural Chemical Company.

The entrepreneur chose to support this institution because "Middlebury has long been recognized for its strong science department, and for the many graduates who have won prominent places in the field of science," *The Campus* reported in September 1960.

Known as the Roger W. Babson Venture Fund, the 1960 agreement between the donor and the College stipulated that the "shares, including any resulting splits, consolidation and reorganizations, shall be held by the Fund for a period of at least 35 years."

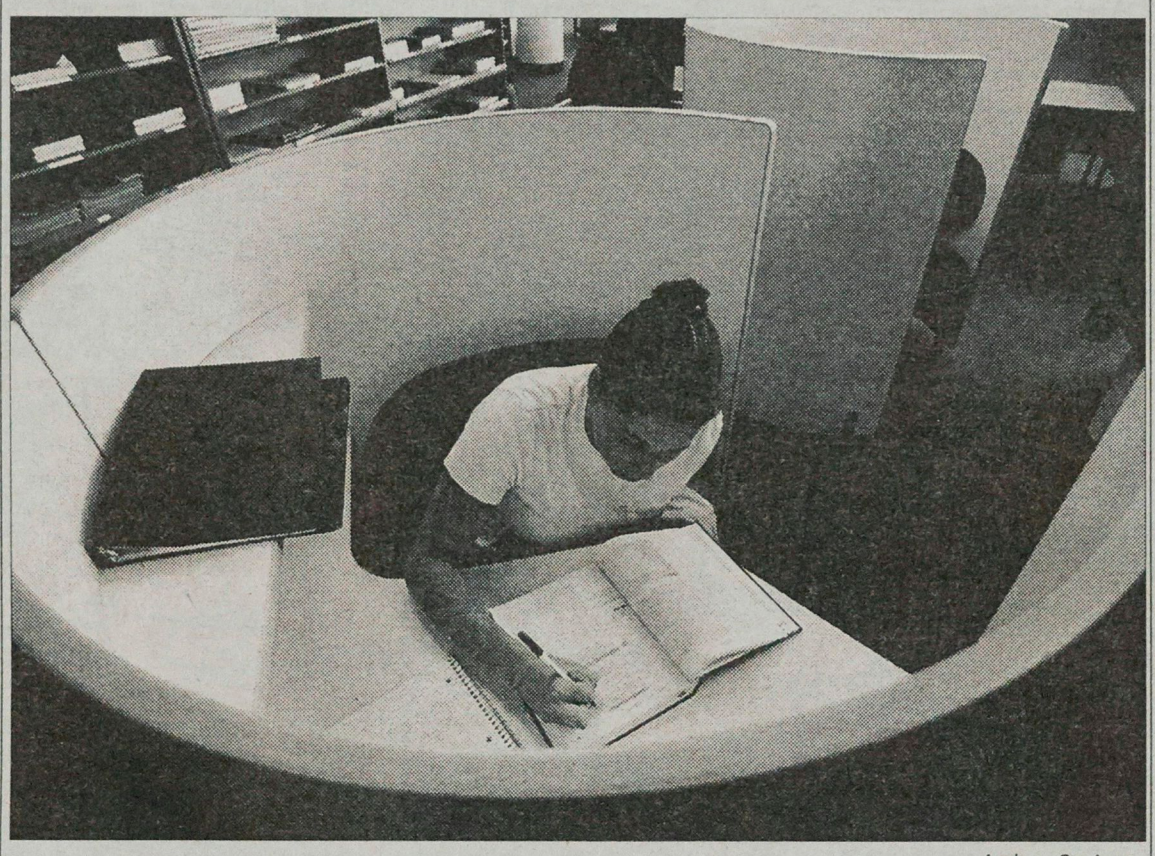
Upon the expiration of this term – in 1995 – the College had until Dec. 31, 1999 to redeem the shares. By the terms of the aforementioned contract, the accumulated income was to be "used for the purpose of acquiring building and equipment devoted to scientific research."

According to Winkler, industrial research giant Du Pont acquired the original American Agricultural Chemical Company, while Middlebury held onto and reinvested the donated shares. Stock prices soared thanks to the economic boom of the late 90s, and the College cashed in.

With the Bicentennial Hall project on the horizon, these newly acquired dividends provided a healthy "nest-egg" for the expansion of Middlebury's science facilities in the form of several million dollars, explained Winkler. Babson's donation substantially helped the College finance the construction of its state-of-the-art science building.

Located between Warner Hall and Voter Hall, both science facilities of years past, the inscribed, granite monument tells Babson's story – a man without whom Bicentennial Hall might not be a reality – and serves as a reminder of Babson's ventures into the untried.

Reading in the Round

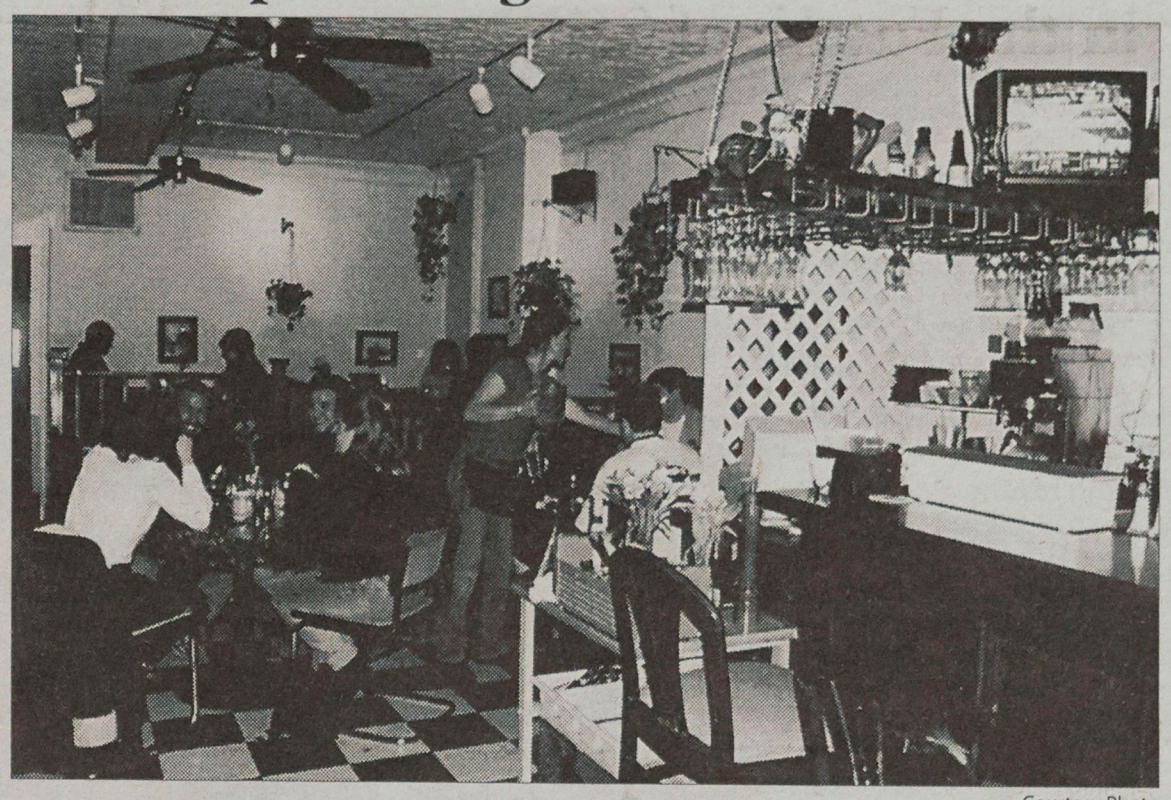


Andrew Corrigan

Tucked away and focused on her studies, *Julia Bergofsky '02 prepares for a mid-term exam on Tuesday afternoon in one of Starr Library's circular study carrels.*

Cajun Food Jazzes Up Burlington's Bourbon Street

By Peter Dixon
Staff Writer



Courtesy Photo

During a typical day, the Bourbon Street Grille bustles with sound of jazz and the steady flow of clientele.

If you're looking for the bawdy shows and stormy nightlife of Bourbon Street, located in the heart of New Orleans' French Quarter, don't come here. But if you're in the mood for some spicy Cajun fare and a slow southern atmosphere, and have some dollars to spend, you can find them at the Bourbon Street Grille (BSG), located in Burlington off of Church Street, at 213 College Street.

The first thing you'll notice when you sit down is the black and white thermometer that graces the menu's cover. Numbered from one to ten, the "Hot or Not" meter lets you decide on no spice, "killer" or somewhere in between, when ordering your meal. You can spice up a bowl of red beans and rice with grilled chicken ($6.95) or throw a little fire onto a plate of Jamaican Jerk Chicken and Shrimp ($15.95). I recommend around a three or a four, unless you're feeling adventurous.

We arrived at the BSG around 8 p.m. last Saturday night. Though busy and crowded, we were seated immediately by a friendly host. "I hope you're not in a rush," she warned us, pointing to the crowded space.

With a small bar on one side and glass-topped tables scattered around, the restaurant emanates a slow, friendly atmosphere. With walls decorated by aged jazz instruments, slow blues buzzing from an old-fashioned ceiling and neon lettering glowing red through the front window, the BSG welcomes you. And though our neighbors complained to us about their slow service, we were promptly attended to.

The next thing that might catch your attention here is the great selection of what sounds like very tasty food. The BSG is open for lunch and serves small lunch entrees as well as burgers and sandwiches, which are available for dinner as well. There is a great selection of appetizers, which also make fine meals, such as Maine crab cakes and popcorn shrimp (both $7.95), or the "soup du jour." The dinner entrees, though pricey, sound even tastier and include chicken, shrimp, scallops, steak, as well as a few vegetarian options. Ranging from $15 to $18, all of these meals include a house salad or the option to "upgrade" to a famous BSG Caesar salad – described as the "Best in Town." You can choose either a large ($5.95) or small ($2.95) and add chicken, shrimp, salmon, steak or fried onions for a few extra bucks. A large Caesar with one of these toppings would also make a fine meal by itself.

Karin and I both substituted our dinner salads for small Caesars (an additional $1.95), and she ordered hers topped with fried onions ($1), which turned out to be very nice. The salads were very fresh and the dressing tasty, but by the end both of us were complaining about the weight. The lettuce was more soaked in dressing, than dressed, and was too heavy to finish. The same could be said about the bowl of Corn and Clam Chowder ($3.75) I ordered as an appetizer. This choice turned out to be a general disappointment as the clams were rubbery and the soup was more of a dip than anything else. It did turn out to be perfect for the freshly baked loaf of wheat bread, however, that comes with every meal.

With walls decorated by aged jazz instruments, slow blues buzzing from an old-fashioned ceiling and neon lettering glowing red through the front window, the Bourbon Street Grille welcomes you.

As our neighbors finished up their dinner, ours appeared much to our delight. Karin had ordered the Seafood Mixed Grille ($16.95), with no spice, and was very satisfied. Noting that is was perfectly proportioned – with rice pilaf, sautéed vegetables and three small pieces of fish (which to me looked a bit sparse for the price) – she concluded that the three elements complemented each other very well. There was a great selection of vegetables, and the whole meal was very light and fulfilling – a nice contrast to the salad.

I had the Jamaican Jerk Chicken and Shrimp, grilled with Bourbon Street Jerk spice and topped with fruit salsa. Although the waitress had forgotten to ask me to what spice degree I wanted my meal and also forgot the salsa, the chicken and shrimp were cooked perfectly and the Jerk spice, whatever that may be, was great. Again though, I thought my meal too small for the price. In addition, it consisted more of vegetables than meat. The two small pieces of chicken were juicy and the four shrimp tender and crispy. The vegetables, ranging from squash and zucchini to fresh peas and carrots, were crisp and the rice pilaf nice, although overwhelmed by chopped vegetables. By the end, I was left unsatisfied and wished I had ordered something a little more substantial, such as the steak with mashed potatoes.

Feeling a bit disappointed by this point, I was looking forward to dessert. We looked at the menu and decided without saying a word – Chocolate Chip Cookie Pie with a scoop of Ben and Jerry's vanilla ice cream ($4.95). Presented beautifully, striped with chocolate sauce and powdered sugar, the pie tasted great but didn't hit the spot. It was overcooked and led us to conclude that it had simply been stuck into the microwave before being brought out because as it started to cool, it hardened as well. By this point we were very full and Karin was happier with her dinner than me. Still, though, I thought it was a very nice place to spend a Saturday night.

My conclusion – the BSG captures a lot of the essence so important to New Orleans Cajun cooking and though it pains me to say this, probably gets as close as one could expect up here in Vermont. Overall, the food tasted good, the selection was great but the price was a bit too steep for the college budget.

I'd recommend you wait for parent's weekend to venture out to the BSG.

The Rambling Man

By Raam Wong
Opinions Editor

It's strange, men always tend to get their hair cut at the same time. Now I don't want to make unsubstantiated claims here (such as I do with my gender), so I'll give you the proof. I took a poll of 100 people, and 50 percent said they had gotten their hair cut in the last week, 49 percent said they had not, and 1 percent said, "I've answered that stupid poll 99 times now, and I don't want to make up anymore damn answers."

Getting my hair cut has never been fun. When I was a kid, my parents insisted on doing it themselves. Though they tried to recreate the salon-going experience by allowing me to read fashion magazines while waiting for my haircut, it just wasn't pleasant. They used to give me a "bowl cut" by placing a salad bowl on top of my head. This was fine until one time when my parents couldn't find the salad bowl and had to use something else from the kitchen. From then on at school I was known as "Gravy Boat."

One haircut option for whenever your parents are busy (or in prison for tax evasion) is to go to a barber. For five bucks you are basically playing Russian Roulette with your hair. You can never quite be sure if you'll walk away looking like Cameron Crowe, Brad Pitt or Bea Arthur. But it's not that I have anything against that Golden Girl's hair, it's just that when you're 21 and trying to pick up the chicks, you generally try and avoid the post-menopausal look.

One of these less-expensive barbershops is Super Cuts. But after receiving my share of missing sideburns from their barbers, I think the store should change its name to something more appropriate like "So-So Cuts" or "Our Hairstylists Are Legally Blind Cuts." Also, they tend not to sterilize their equipment, meaning that you'll likely end up with a grave condition such as meningitis, hepatitis or itchy scalpitis.

But if you don't mind a bleeding ear or the occasional case of lock jaw, then go for it. But I prefer hair salons. Now I can just hear people yelling things like, "That Wong is a pansy!" and "I always knew my son played for the other team!" But I am convinced that salons are the way to go.

Federal laws require all salons to have different, alternative names like "Jive," "Echoes" and "Vasectomies." But salons all have the same procedure. First, you sit down in the waiting area where you can read a bunch of outdated magazines such as a copy of *Time* featuring its Man of the Year: Moses.

If it's your first time at the salon, you're unusually on the lookout for people who have just received a bad haircut and left the salon looking like Bea Arthur or those infected with lockjaw. Many salons

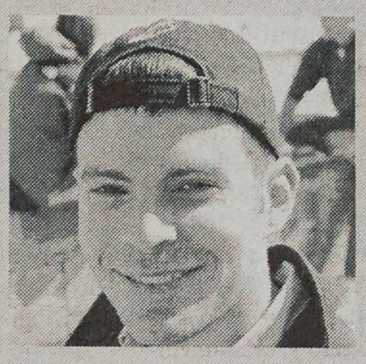
(see The Rambling, page 13)

CAMPUS VOICES

What are Girl Scout cookies made of?

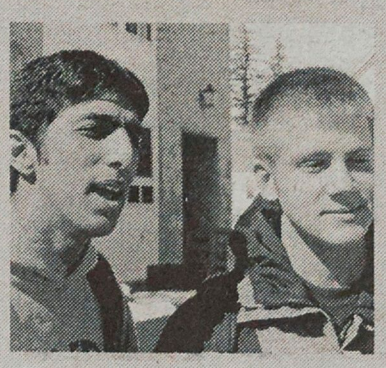
Compiled by Claire Bourne

Photos by Alex Westra



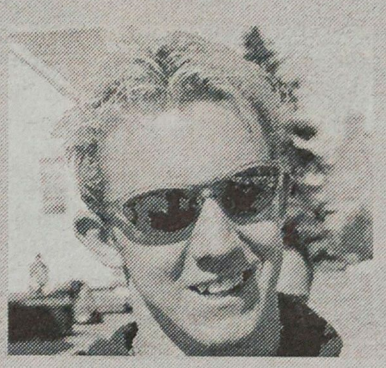
"Ephs."

—Martin Walsh '03



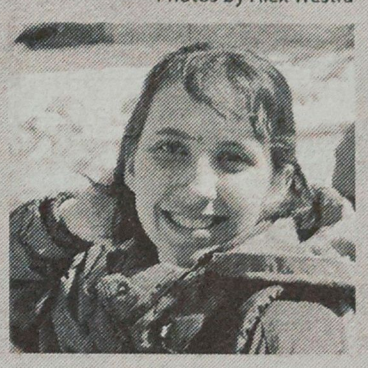
"Flour and love and maybe some chocolate."

—Ameer Qalbani '04 and Mike Burke '04



"A little girl scout lovin'."

—Ernie Miller '03



"Girl Scouts."

—Abbie Beane '04.5

First-year Febs Fill Post-Party Airwaves With 'Funkafied Filth'

By Matt Longo
Staff Writer

It's late Saturday night. Technically, it's Sunday morning, but it's all one big blur anyway. The social at McCullough ended a couple of hours ago. The unregistered parties have been broken up by Security. Many students are stumbling home, remembering last week's lesson that it's not cool to vomit on someone else's rug. Gradually, the lights in the dorms shut off one by one. Middlebury is quiet. But I'm still up, ready to "keep on keeping on," as Bob Dylan says. Where do I go at this insane hour? What to do?

As the sun began to rise, the Beatles' "Here Comes the Sun," and the Doors' "Waiting for the Sun" were appropriately transmitted over the airwaves.

Well, this Saturday night/Sunday morning I did have a place to go and people to see. The college radio station, otherwise known as WRMC 91.1 FM, is still hopping at 3 a.m. In fact, it never slows down. Matthew Reimer '04.5 works as a DJ during the lonely hours between 3 and 6 a.m. on Sunday morning alongside his cohort and fellow Texan, Brockett Hudson '04.5. They invited me to visit them during their show, which they have dubbed the "Free Form Funkafied Filth Show."

As soon as they asked me to join them I wondered if anyone actually listened to them. Who's awake during those hours? Who would remember to listen? To be honest, I had never listened to the show before my visit. My curiosity could not resist this offer to witness the underground subculture of Middlebury in action.

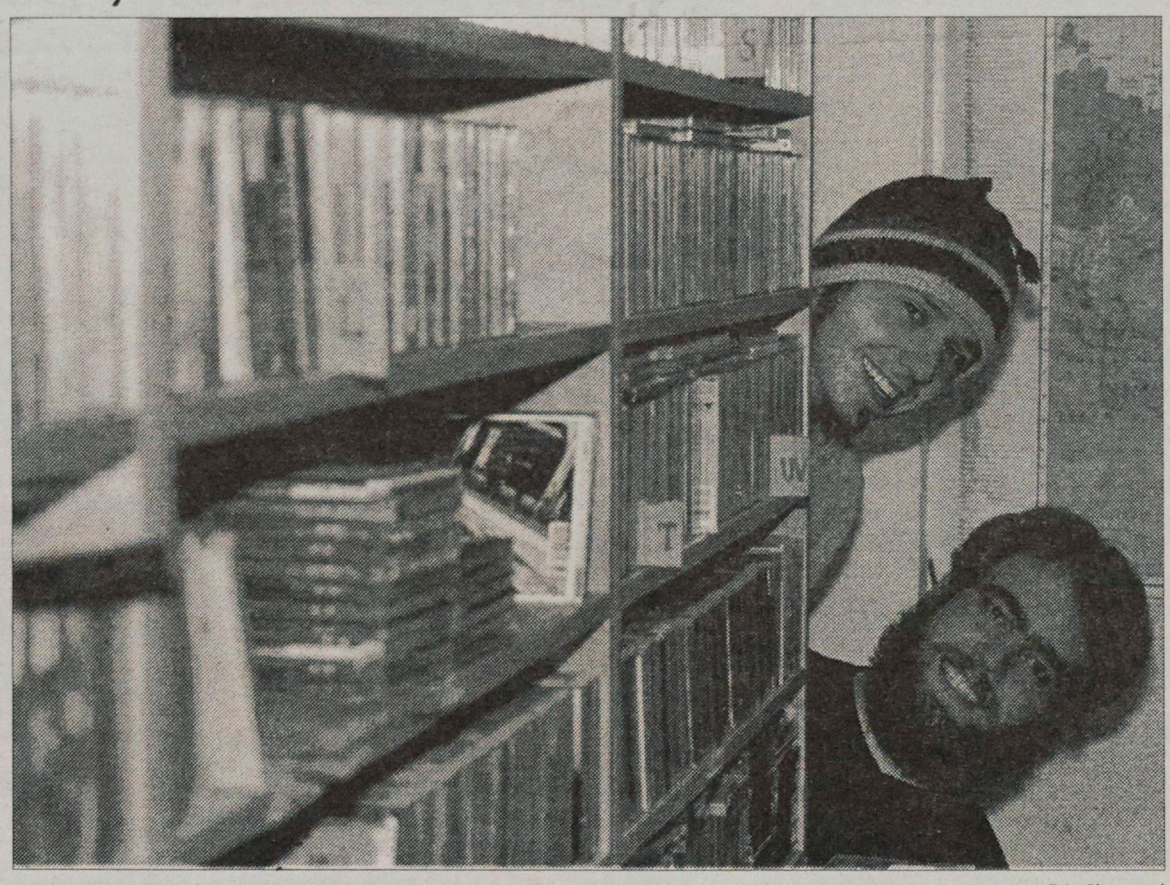
Ironically, I slept through most of the show. For some reason I woke up at 5:30 a.m. and remembered that Reimer and Hudson were still cranking out the tunes. I hustled over to Proctor, where the station is located. The corridor leading to the DJ booth was lined with posters of various non-mainstream musical artists, ranging from Belle & Sebastian to Pavement. I scoped the music collection, noticing the eclectic selection of genres and artists. Next, we had a spirited discussion about music and, more specifically, they explained why they do what they do.

Before deciding on the song list for a show, a DJ must know what type of crowd he or she is catering to. As Reimer and Hudson mentioned, their target audience consists of insomniacs and late-night revelers. "We try to keep the late night chill mode of the party alive...with mellow music," said Reimer.

Hudson added that, in general, they intend the music they play to be "soothing and good." Soothing and good are relative terms of course, but these two Febs hope that their colleagues can appreciate their musical interests. Reimer believes that "good taste in music comes along with intelligence." With this philosophy, Reimer and Hudson prefer to "play songs people don't know very well" but, nevertheless, will still appreciate and enjoy.

It did not surprise me, then, to review their set list for the show and find that it included such artists as Wilson Pickett, Weezer, Credence Clearwater Revival, Pavement, Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, Robert Earl Keen, Ray Charles and James Brown, just to name a few.

Reimer and Hudson and mostly everyone else know that the time slot for their radio show is not the most glamorous one. Nonetheless, they enjoy what they do because their prime motivation is simply their love for music. "We're trying to spread the good word of music," Reimer acknowledged. Exactly how many people hear the "good word of music" is another question, however.



Eric Skovsted

Brockett Hudson '04.5 and Matt Reimer '04.5 spin discs every Sunday morning until sunrise on WRMC.

During this past Sunday morning's show, they entertained the most requests they have received to date – six. But that does not discourage them. And why should it? "I like it that no one is listening. It makes it fun. Well, maybe one or two people are listening," joked Hudson.

This carefree attitude was reflected in the traffic report they included in their broadcast. As you might imagine, there was no traffic to report in Middlebury at four in the morning.

Reimer and Hudson steer away from talk radio. Reimer admitted that their lone attempt at a more loquacious show was "terrible." Whether they talk or not, some people are listening. As a matter of fact, one person actually told them that he heard the show.

Despite such seemingly widespread popularity, Reimer and Hudson are not interested in the celebrity lifestyle. Instead, these two humble crusaders for good music maintain a low profile in the musical subculture at Middlebury.

Despite such seemingly widespread popularity, Reimer and Hudson are not interested in the celebrity lifestyle.

As the "Free Form Funkafied Filth Show" neared its end and the sun began to rise, the Beatles' "Here Comes the Sun" and the Doors' "Waiting for the Sun" were appropriately transmitted over the airwaves. After the conclusion of the show, they gathered their personal collections of CDs which they use for the show and walked outside to greet the new dawn.

Another night of music and another night of fun for these two midnight riders. As we departed, Reimer, in explaining his passion for hosting a radio show during such inconspicuous hours, quoted a Robert Earl Keen song he played earlier: "The road goes on forever and the party never ends."

And Reimer and Brocket know that every party needs music. Tune in.

Festival Spotlights Brazilian Culture

(continued from page 7)

rich expression.

Andre Gusmao, an advanced capoerista who accompanied Jô to Middlebury, explained that the dance is not linked with any specific nostalgia or sentimentality but rather a corporal expression of freedom. "Your body is free to whatever you want," explained Gusmao.

Harmony flourished in the swings of the dance encircled by musicians who thumped on drums and rhythmically jingled tambourines.

Harmony flourished in the swings of the dance encircled by musicians who thumped on drums and rhythmically jingled tambourines. This imperative melody... determined the moves of the dancers.

This imperative melody established the rhythm of the jogo and determined the moves of the dancers. Capoeira has proliferated globally to reach other Portuguese-speaking countries and has even taken root in urban centers of multicultural nations such as the United States.

During the 13-year dictatorship of Gêtulio Vargas, capoeira gained national sport status in Brazil. The foundation of the "game" as a source of patriotic unity and national pride has risen to the elites as superior capoeira skill now marks elevated social status. Although the practice is not limited to elevated classes, as it is often visible in the streets, the national sport has evolved into a performing art, described Marco Sotelino '04 of his experiences as a native Brazilian. Sotelino later energized Saturday's reception with an informal concert of modern Brazilian music in Portuguese.

Knowledge of the Portuguese language certainly aids true capoeristas in their understanding of Brazilian spirituality and nationalistic mentality.

Although the College traditionally offers a Winter Term course in Portuguese for Spanish speakers, no Portuguese department has been established. De León suggested that a curriculum could develop in the foreseeable future, perhaps in as early as two year's time.

With no Portuguese courses yet available, a capoeira club has gained the abounding support of roughly 40 members that represent "a diverse range of students from rugby players to dancers," commented Chang.

Three participants had already dabbled in the art prior to the invaluable workshop held this weekend under the expert instruction of contramestre Jô.

Tamsen Fricke '01, Peter Park '01 and Chang himself will share their skills with the group at practices held three times per week.

"It is the mission of the capoeira club to gain a better understanding of not only the physical aspects of capoeira, but also the musical, cultural and spiritual traditions inherently tied to the martial art," elucidated Chang. Inviting other capoeristas on campus as well as visiting neighboring capoeira enthusiasts to instruct workshops in the future will enhance the club's understanding of the art, Chang added.

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Interaction With Nature Sparks Spiritual Renewal

By Karen Acheson
Staff Writer

I didn't know what to expect as I made my way up to the Kirk Alumni Center to hear Ruah Swennerfelt speak on Sunday evening. I had only been given the simple instructions to bring a soup bowl and spoon and to take notes.

Once I arrived, I tried to gain some clues by glancing at the pamphlets arranged on the table which held titles like, "Freeing Ourselves From Possessions" and "Living Lightly on the Earth" as I took in the aroma of homemade soup and bread. I had come expecting to remain on the circle's outskirts, a silent reporter taking notes and observing what went on in front of me. However, within minutes of my arrival I was invited to share their soup and hold hands in the group's circle as they gave thanks for the land and all it provided.

The lecture was sponsored in part by the Chaplain's office and a local chapter of the "Soup and Bread Series," an organization which meets once a month from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Kirk Alumni Center. The group's organizer, Middlebury resident Patty Hallan, expressed that the purpose of the meetings was "to hear different speakers speak about how their spirituality is reflected in nature," adding that "it's open to Middlebury students, all we ask is that you BYOB&S (bring your own bowl and spoon)."

Past lectures have included "Insight from Buddhist Insight and Philosophy," "The Transcendentalist Spiritual Path" and "Spirit in Science?" Sunday's lecturer was Ruah Swennerfelt, the general secretary of Friends Committee on Unity with Nature, an environmental organization of Quakers in the Americas who would be speaking on "Spiritual Renewal Through a Connection with Nature."

After mingling with everyone for nearly half an hour over bread and soup, Swennerfelt began the discussion by inviting everyone outside to gaze at the horizon. After 10 minutes had passed in silence, we were asked to once again gather in a circle, but this time to observe one another and "find the beauty among ourselves."

Once we were back inside, each person was asked to speak on a connection they have with some aspect of "the-out-of-doors."

A large part of Swennerfelt's time is devoted to what she described as "creating a transformation of heart" by "getting people to go outside and understand the connection." As an individual who has found her connection with nature, Swennerfelt said she believes that "people will attempt to live differently once they understand the spirit of nature is in all of us."

She continued, "There are people in the city nowadays who have garages in the bottom of their buildings, and they drive to work, park in their garages there, work out in the building, and drive back to their garages without going outside once."

It is this lack of connection with nature that Swennerfelt believes has caused the decline of the environment in the last century. She explained, "We need to get people to go outside and understand the connection. We need to try and model what we learn from nature rather than impose ourselves on nature in how we build buildings and grow food, etc." She further explained that because of the loss of this connection, we no longer learn from the land and hence we "park ourselves where we don't belong and build houses on the edges of cliffs that should not be there." She added, "Cliffs erode."

Swennerfelt is currently concerned with the upcoming "Summit of the Americas" in Quebec which she believes may "erode environmental laws" with a proposed Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) measure that would provide free market access for goods and services across the entire continent.

"We have to find our connection and spirit," Swennerfelt explained, "but have our eyes open to what is occurring around us. Jesus once said 'Gentle as doves, wise as serpents.'"

To end with, Swennerfelt asked that everyone go around the circle once again and speak about their "gazinga" (something frivolous you continue to buy). For her part, Swennerfelt explained that although she loved tea, she was going to have to give up Twinings because it was not "fairtrade" tea. "By this," she explained, "it means there is no guarantee that people were paid fairly for their labor." The Fair Trade Federation certifies that people are being paid adequate wages to provide their families with healthcare, food etc. and marks those products that meet their standards with the "free trade" stamp. Swennerfelt stressed that the most important thing everyone could do was "help one another fight the tide of consumerism, and avoid buying into the notion of bigger and better."

She added, "We try to fill the holes in our lives with things, but they don't fill the hole, you need to fill the hole with each other." One member noted that the group had become a "support group for downsizers," adding "one of the most important things we can do is not pass on our bad habits." The meeting ended with Swennerfelt asking each of us to challenge ourselves to help the earth, emphasizing that "we can only do the best we can."

Louisa Conrad
Members of the greater Middlebury community congregated at Kirk Alumni to search for the spirt in nature Sunday.

Tea Cup and the Amazing Road Trip Flatulence Wars

(continued from 'Bob,' page 8)

much legroom in my third-row seat as a trader on the New York Stock Exchange has to be happy about these days. However, after what seemed like a half an hour of shuffling around, I was finally able to obtain a position in which I no longer felt that taking a chainsaw to my knees was a viable solution. Unfortunately, that was about the same time that the flatulence game began.

Now, I won't mention any names, but there are members of the men's tennis team who believe that there is no better opportunity to let out excess gas than in a small van packed with 11 people. The way the game seems to work is that someone lets out a loud fart and then laughs really loud while claiming responsibility for the fart. Then everyone yells at that person for creating such a smelly fart, while pointing out how horrible a person the farter is. In the farting game it is necessary that one show his disdain for a culprit, because it is a sign of respect. It is a way of telling that person, "Hey you, that fart you just had really smells. Way to go."

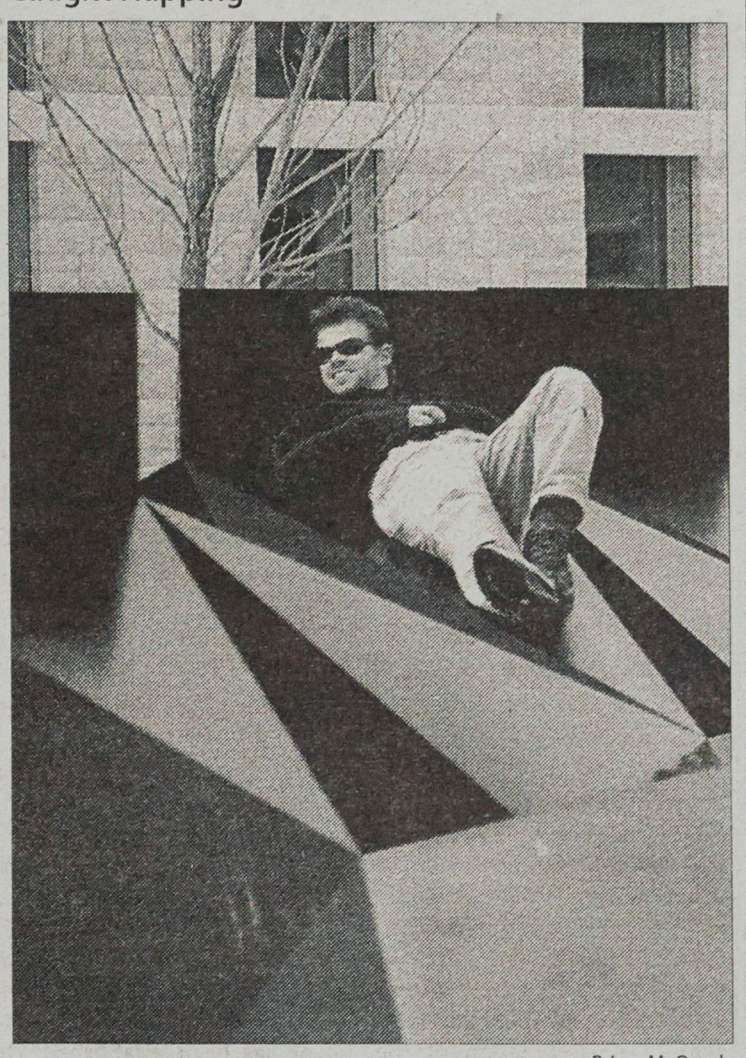
The yelling goes on until someone new lets out an even louder burst of flatulence followed by a tremendous guffaw that claims responsibility, at which point the entire team's focus shifts to the new farting king.

The game continues indefinitely until the van either stops for food or, as was the case with us, someone passes out from gas intoxication. If the van does stop for food, the participants in the game who are losing badly will get out of the van as quickly as possible in order to stuff their faces with as many Hostess cupcakes, microwavable hot dogs and sticks of beef jerky as possible.

I never knew that human gas could pack such a powerful punch, but believe me when I say that there was a small part of each one of us in the van this weekend that wondered, if only for a brief second, "Will I make it out of here alive?"

By the end of the ride, every single window in the van was fogged up and one of our weaker players was nearly comatose. Needless to say, we woke him up by farting in his face.

Caught Napping



Brian McQuade
Soaking up early spring rays, *a sunglasses wearing Midd-kid finds new ways to enjoy Middlebury's interactive sculpture, Smog.*

Starhawk Lands in Vermont, Warns of Brewing Globalization Storm

By Jon White
Features Editor

Infusing spirituality with the fight against globalization, Starhawk brought her message of magical activism to a packed crowd in Pearsons Lounge last Thursday. In her lecture, "Radical Terra-ism," she urged the audience to see the earth as a living organism and to fight against the political and economic apparatus allowing the exploitation of the earth and its people.

Introduced by David Edleson, dean of Cook Commons, Starhawk's visit to Middlebury was sponsored by Cook Commons and Atwater Commons, as well as the departments of religion and women and gender studies.

Edleson noted that she has written several books including "Dreaming in the Dark" and "The Fifth Sacred Thing." Edleson said that Starhawk initially focused on feminist goddess worship in her teachings, but her focus moved to fighting for the earth. She has been at the forefront of environmental movements in California and has recently turned her attention to organizing against the perils of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Starhawk began her talk by encouraging her audience to understand "that the earth has an intelligence of her own." The primary mission of her earth-based spirituality is to teach people that the earth is alive and to listen to what the earth is saying. "Everything living on the earth has awareness," she explained.

Starhawk said that she became particularly aware of the earth as a living, communicating being when she became involved in the fight to save the Headwaters virgin redwood forest in northern California. Headwaters was once among the largest remaining stands of old growth redwoods left in the Pacific coast states, where over 97 percent of such forests have been logged. Headwaters was to be liquidated by a major timber organization, fueling Starhawk and other earth activists' ventures into the forest in an effort to prevent logging. She said that when she went into the forest, she was moved by the incredible silence of the groves of trees, each of which were over 300 feet tall and nearly 15 feet in diameter. In the silence, she listened to the trees, and they told her that being in such a forest "was everybody's birthright...to be in a place where life is so incredibly alive."

Starhawk then turned her talk to the sad reality of today's world. She said that with exception of Headwaters, the majority of which was eventually saved from the timber industry's chainsaws, there are hardly any untouched ecosystems left. "Every environment we experience has been manipulated. Radical terra-ists know that we are all living in a stolen birthright and we will have to struggle to get it back," Starhawk said.

In terms of the current environmental crisis and the political regime, Starhawk registered great alarm at the ignorance of politicians in the face of mounting environmental strain. "The effects of climate change and global warming are impacting every aspect of our civilization," she warned. In spite of the compelling evidence, Starhawk commented that "the stupidity of our politicians seems an infinite resource."

She went on to criticize President Bush's recent decision not to regulate carbon dioxide emissions. She insisted that there are clearly defined methods with which to reduce carbon dioxide emission and that society would be in better shape "if we put half the energy into these [clean] industries and not into subsidizing the oil and gas industries."

"Our politicians have a suicidal inability to come to terms with reality," Starhawk said and she described evil as "rigorously applied stupidity."

Continuing her lecture, she appealed to those in Pearsons to bring about change by committing to a natural relationship with the earth. "Go out and try to figure out the world," she suggested. Doing so affords personal renewal, and she stressed that personal connection with the earth would be necessary to fight the emerging environmental crisis and globalization.

Nikki Holland

Environmental activist Starhawk spoke about the pressing need to save the living earth in Pearsons on Thursday.

Every environment we experience has been manipulated. Radical terra-ists know that we are living in a stolen birthright and we will have to struggle to get it back.

—Starhawk

Addressing globalization, Starhawk read a poignant piece about a woman named "Hermana Cristina" from El Salvador. Cristina's story depicted a country ruled by corporate interests – one where national laws have been suspended in favor of corporations and where abuses against humanity run the gamut from total suppression of political organization to increased disease due to the overabundance of chemical agents in the environment.

"We need the will and fortitude to change the political and economic institutions" that are bringing about globalization, said Starhawk. She avowed that such strength could come through activism tempered with spirituality. She said that being an activist is both draining and frustrating. The average amount of time individuals remain activists is a mere three years. Thus elements of spiritual organization around the earth and wicca beliefs can provide indispensable energy and renewal.

Starhawk was in Vermont to conduct magical activism training and to hold workshops in non-violent direct activism in preparation for next month's activist convergence upon the Free Trade Area of the Americas' (FTAA) meeting in Quebec.

She described the FTAA as "corporate control from pole to pole." She said that the FTAA is an extension of the North America Free Trade Association (NAFTA) aimed at undermining national laws in all the states from the Arctic Ocean to Tierra del Fuego. She views NAFTA as an epic disaster: 500,000 American jobs have been lost, Mexico's standard of living has fallen and sweatshops have blossomed.

One of the biggest concerns to which Starhawk alluded is the manner in which agreements like NAFTA and organizations like the International Monetary Fund (IMF), WTO and FTAA set up corporate courts and sue governments because their laws interfere with corporate profits. She noted that American corporations have sued the government of Canada because it won't permit the selling of a chemical additive made in the United States for Canadian industry because that additive has been shown to cause cancer.

She said that the whole business of these corporate courts is of supreme fiction; the U.S. Postal Service is suing because the Canadian government won't allow it to deliver mail in Canada and this is hurting the postal service profits. All this, Starhawk warned, underminines national laws and creates a corporate tyranny that harms both people and the environment for the sake of profit.

Quebec marks another key point for activism and protest following the highly publicized demonstrations against the WTO in Seattle. Starhawk was arrested in Seattle for her actions, but this only fueled her drive to speak out. She said that Quebec is presently being turned into a militarized zone in preparation for the FTAA meeting. Starhawk commented that a little over a decade ago democracy celebrated the fall of the Berlin Wall, yet now similarly restrictive walls are being erected in Quebec to prevent the movement of people during the FTAA meeting and thwart the expression of democracy.

In closing, Starhawk stated, "We have the capacity to bring about change, but we don't have time or leeway and are quickly running out of natural resources."

In the face of these formidable obstacles, Starhawk emphasized the need for witchcraft-like rituals. "Ritual helps you get through hard times; it allows people to connect; it strengthens them and gives them a sense of solidarity," she explained.

Students and faculty shared enthusiastic response to Starhawk's words. Joya Scott '03 said, "I was really happy to see the wicca/earth-centered spirituality movement represented on campus because I think it has a lot to offer the modern world, especially amidst the environmental destruction that's going on."

Scott was moved by Starhawk's comments that the society has the resources to bring about change and live in greater harmony with the earth. "Now it's just a matter of public opinion and garnering a critical mass of people to stand up for what they believe in and start living in harmony with the earth. That is a very powerful message," she affirmed.

Edleson said that, as a friend of Starhawk's and having heard her speak before on such issues, he was nonetheless struck by "her assertion that what we need most is to be able to see the alternative... If we want to assert sanity in a political system that is insane, we need to be able to create hope by seeing that solutions are not only possible but already present. It's only a matter of choosing a different approach."

Edleson and Scott both said they were inspired to see the large crowd on hand in Pearsons. According to Edleson, Starhawk's visit worked well in paving the way for "Cookstock." Cookstock is a series of events sponsored by Cook Commons this spring that will offer reflections on the 1960s spirit of activism..

Edleson sees a link between Starhawk and Cookstock in that both demonstrate that "activism is not a matter of nostalgia, but present-day real choices. We want Cookstock to be both a forum for academically looking at the 1960s and for students to bring their own activism to campus."

Going beyond Middlebury and Cookstock, students wishing to pursue activism as promoted by Starhawk should contact Naomi Andrews '03, president of the Middlebury Progressives. She is looking to carry on Starhawk's activist message by organizing a group of students from Middlebury to travel to Quebec for the April 20 meeting of the FTAA.

Upbeat Skama Sutra Raises Funds for Charity

(continued from page 7)

The organization, with only 15 full and part-time staff members, depends on its dedicated volunteers, who do everything from home rehabilitation to fundraising. In her short time at ACCAG, Montross has experienced an "absolutely wonderful" connection with Middlebury College students, who she describes as "great resources of creativity and energy."

In January, for example, all proceeds from MCAB's Dance-a-thon benefit (over $1200) went to the ACCAG Fuel Assistance program.

"The Fuel Assistance fund supplements the heating bills for those who are unable to afford them in Addison County," explained MCAB President Jill Anderson '01.

While Montross, having recently agreed with Director of Service Learning and Student Employment Tiffany Sargent to make ACCAG the first community partner in the service learning program, "looks forward to seeing ACCAG's relationship with the college blossom," Middlebury students also gain valuable experience and insight from community service.

Hunt remarked, "It is easy for Middlebury students to stay within the physical and mental limits of the College in terms of awareness of lower-income citizens in Middlebury and Addison County. I think that the key here is awareness."

With increased awareness and involvement, the College, through organizations such as ACCAG, continues to have a positive impact on the community. The successful Skama Sutra event left Middlebury's connection with Addison County on a good note.

'Taste of India' Adds Spice to Town

By Kristine Palmero
and Hilary Watts
Staff Writers

On bitter winter days in March when your friends in Florida and Australia are making you jealous with their talk of warm weather and hot nights, sometimes the only thing you can do to escape (short of laying out a beach towel, slathering yourself with coconut-scented sunblock and tanning under the heat of your 60-watt light bulbs) is to dine at a restaurant that reminds you of places more exotic.

Until recently, Middlebury students could walk to China, Mexico and Italy, but if they wanted to do some globe trotting... they'd have to do it in Burlington or Rutland. Now Middlebury has India.

Until recently, Middlebury students could walk to China, Mexico and Italy; but if they wanted to do some globe trotting to Thailand, Lebanon or Mongolia, they'd have to do it in Burlington or Rutland. Now Middlebury has India.

"Taste of India House," which had its grand opening on Sunday, March 11, is already enjoying widespread popularity. But its immediate success shouldn't be any surprise to the restaurant owners or to the students who frequented the India House in Burlington.

Located on 1 Bakery Lane above Neat Repeats, Taste of India is bigger than the India House, but it still has the intimate, low-key atmosphere that made the Burlington establishment so well-loved. From almost any table, you get a nice view of Otter Creek.

When we arrived on Sunday for our seven o'clock reservation, the place was nearly filled to maximum capacity, and this was on the first night! So a word to the wise: play it safe and make reservations at least a few hours in advance. As soon as we sat down, our waiter poured us glasses of water and gave us our menus. He recognized two of our friends who had dined at the India House.

"Service is great as always," said Abby. "I love how the people who work there remember us every time."

He returned only a few minutes later to ask what we wanted to drink. Always order the mango lhassi ($2.50) – a mildly sweet mango-yogurt drink served on ice. If you make the mistake of ordering a Coke ($1.50) instead, you will get a raised eyebrow from your waiter and be rebuked by your friends who know better than to pass up this drink. It could easily be a dessert drink (it's that good) or it could be your lifesaver if your palate isn't accustomed to spicy fare. "It's heaven in a glass," Abby remarked.

We perused our menu a few times before we were finally ready to order. Their culinary repertoire is extensive and varied. I ordered the samosa ($2.50), two huge, fried wonton-shaped pillows filled with spices, lentils, peas, carrots and potato, while Hilary ordered the vegetable soup ($2.50), both of which were filling on their own. Unless you missed breakfast and lunch that day or have a lot of space in your stomach, think twice about ordering the appetizers because they are generous, very rich portions. You can always split the samosa with friends or get an extra spoon for the soup, which is what we did before our even bigger entrees arrived.

Unless you're highly sensitive to spices, go ahead and order the medium-spicy instead of the mild. If you're feeling especially adventurous, get the very spicy and another glass of mango lhassi to chase the curry. Also, make sure to get naans and paratha (Indian breads), about which the menu says, "No Indian meal is complete without it." If you like garlic, get the house bread – flat bread with layers of cheese and garlic (not recommended for first and second dates). I ordered the mango chicken ($9.95), one of the chef's suggestions – a sweet, tangy dish that I would definitely order again.

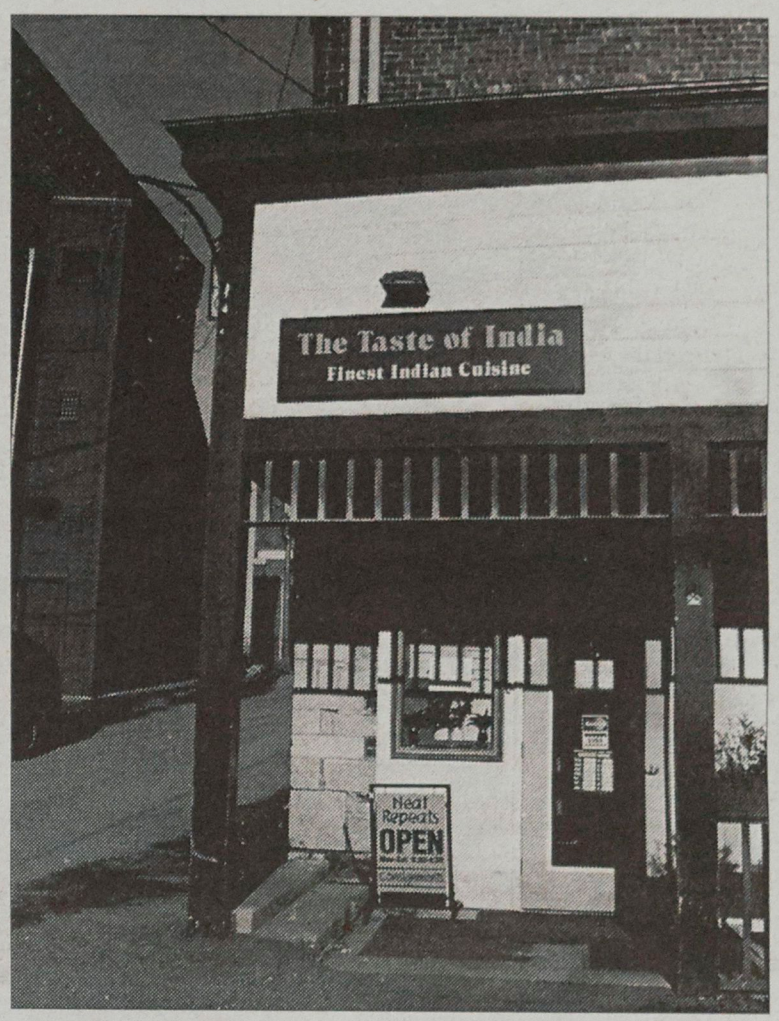
Hilary ordered off of the curry section of the menu. "An established fan of curry in general, I was overwhelmed by the number of curry options, and thus opted for the basic, medium spicy chicken curry ($9.50)," said Hilary. "It was quite tasty and did not make me cry, even with the beginnings of my head cold."

Yara ordered the non-vegetarian feast ($12.95) – a metal plate of bread, chicken tandoori, lentil paste, mattar paneer (goat cheese with fresh green peas) and chicken curry (an additional $2.50 because she substituted chicken curry for lamb).

"It was delicioso," said Yara. Abby had the medium malai kofta ($8.95), a vegetarian plate of koftas (fried balls of crushed peppers, carrots, potatoes and chillies) in gravy, which she said was "fabulous."

By the time we were done with our amazing, leisurely dinner, it was almost nine o'clock and we were already thinking about the next time we'd have lunch or dinner here.

My suggestion: run, don't walk to the newest addition to Middlebury's culinary repertoire.



Eric Skovsted

The Taste of India, located above Neat Repeats on Bakery Lane, offers traditional Indian cuisine, complete with fiery curry and other spicy dishes.

The Rambling Man's Adventures in Haircutting

(continued from 'Man,' page 9)

try and convince you that it's reputable by placing in the waiting area books full of pictures of models with great haircuts, presumably examples of the salon's great work. However, what you don't know is that those are pictures of the customers coming in before their haircuts. A book of pictures showing what the salon actually does to a person—comb-overs and trimmed ears—would likely make you run for your life.

The sign of a good salon is it having at least one European guy wearing all black with a French name such as Crepe. He will appear in the waiting area, wrap what looks to be a plastic table cloth around your body, and then whisk you off to the back to get your hair washed in a miniature urinal. This part I hate. I mean, if I wanted to stick my head in a toilet bowl, I'd chug a bottle of whisky or think of my grandparents washing their Cadillac in the nude (sorry to give away your secret, Grammy and Grampy).

After the stylist shoots scalding water in your face, he then decides it'd be good to start a conversation. This is just brilliant. Is there a better time to have an in-depth conversation about religion than when your head is pushed back into a mini urinal so that your entire nasal passage is exposed to the world by your flaring nostrils? But maybe this environment is conducive to good conversation. It's a little known fact that when Yasir Arafat visits Washington, D.C., next month, his first stop will be a spa where he and Bush will share a mud bath while they hammer out the details of a Middle East resolution.

Anyway, despite the fact that your head is in a urinal and you can't hear what the stylist is saying, you still try and hold a conversation:

STYLIST: So do you have a lot of friends? Are you gregarious?
YOU: Um, no, Dutch-Irish.
STYLIST: You can't hear a damn word I'm saying, can you?
YOU: Hmm, I've never thought of it that way.
STYLIST: How would you like it if I made you look like Bea Arthur?
YOU: Right. Sounds good.

You are then escorted back to the chair where you wince in pain as you are forced to look at your face in the mirror for the next half hour. It's like you are seeing yourself for the first time; you try and wrap your mind around how your face could possibly look that bad. You think, "What the hell happened to me? Is that what people see when they look at me? I left the house looking like this? Why didn't anyone tell me? Gee, I'm starting to look like that old woman from the 'Golden Girls.' I never agreed to that, did I?"

Next, after some awkward silence and you pretending to fall asleep, you begin to make small talk about the only thing you and the hairstylist have in common—hair.

YOU: So you must work with a lot of hair. What's your favorite cut?
STYLIST: I'd say the flattop. What's yours?
YOU: The Mullet! Ha, ha! What kind of pathetic, Dukes of Hazard-watching loser gets a Mull... What's that? Oh, well it works on you.
STYLIST: Why don't you pretend to fall back asleep...

After the haircut is complete, you're given a hand mirror so that you can look at the back. But it's so pointless. No matter how bad your hair may be, the damage has already been done. The stylist could've shaved in the words "I love the big women," and you'd still say the same thing: "Wow, looks good. I like what you've done to the front. I've always wanted to look like Bea Arthur."

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Editorial

More Than an Afterthought...

To be handicapped doesn't always mean being wheelchair bound and it doesn't always mean that your ailments are visible. Most importantly, it should never mean that you are at a disadvantage.

At Middlebury College one in 19 undergraduate students is receiving services from the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) office. Among them, 66 have learning disabilities, 10 have dyslexia, 24 have Attention Deficit Disorder, 11 have psychological disabilities, three have mobility impairments and one has a hearing impairment. The common misconception at the College is that there are no people with handicaps on campus and, therefore, the College only needs to handle problems on a case-by-case basis.

That conception is far from the truth. The fact of the matter is, Middlebury College is not handicapped friendly – and it won't be until it makes an institutional commitment to the inclusion of ADA requirements in all aspect of college planning. The College does a fantastic job on an individual basis. Students with handicaps have praised the efforts of facilities management on their individual attention to personal needs. However, there are many sweeping improvements that need to be made before Middlebury College can be deemed handicapped friendly.

The college should make universal accessibility on campus one of its peaks of excellence. To do so would mean transforming universal accessibility into an institutional value or goal. ADA suggestions should be incorporated into college planning instead of being tagged on as a necessary afterthought. There are many buildings on campus that are not handicapped accessible, and those that still have limited access to students. For example, Bicentennial Hall, a $50 million enterprise, is not equipped with automatic door openers at every entrance. Munroe Hall is completely inaccessible to handicapped students. The second floor of The Grille is almost impossible to reach by wheelchair. And dining halls such as Hamlin and Freeman are only handicapped accessible through back entrances in the kitchens. What these examples demonstrate is ADA compliance as an afterthought, not as a part of the planning process. With the resources available at the College, new buildings should allow for handicap accessibility at all entrances and should not force faculty, staff, guests or students to reroute to a side or back entrance.

Middlebury College encourages diversity and it highlights environmental awareness; however, upon opening the Viewbook, nowhere does it welcome handicapped students to apply. Nowhere does it outline the provisions made for those who have physical or emotional impairments. Making ADA awareness a peak of excellence could solve this problem. There needs to be language and visual or photographic representations incorporated into admissions materials that highlight the resources available to disabled students. And, for current students, the College needs to raise awareness about the disabilities that are already present at the school. The statistic that one out of 19 students at the College has a disability should not be a surprise – it should be a fact clearly publicized by the administration.

Another important consideration is that the College is not only here for the undergraduate students. Faculty and staff use the facilities year round. Throughout the academic year there are programs that attract members of the community. And in the summer there are programs, such as the language schools, that bring people to the College for short periods of time. All of these people need to be taken into consideration as the College plans its future facilities.

No one should be marginalized at Middlebury College – and being forced to take back or side entrances, not being able to attend events because of poor accessibility and being ignored in the discussion of college demographics is a form of marginalization. Only by making ADA awareness a peak of excellence and fully incorporating ADA suggestions into planning will Middlebury step up to where it should be. Until then, Middlebury's highly modernized facilities continue marginalize students with disabilities. Only through awareness and better planning can this problem be overcome.

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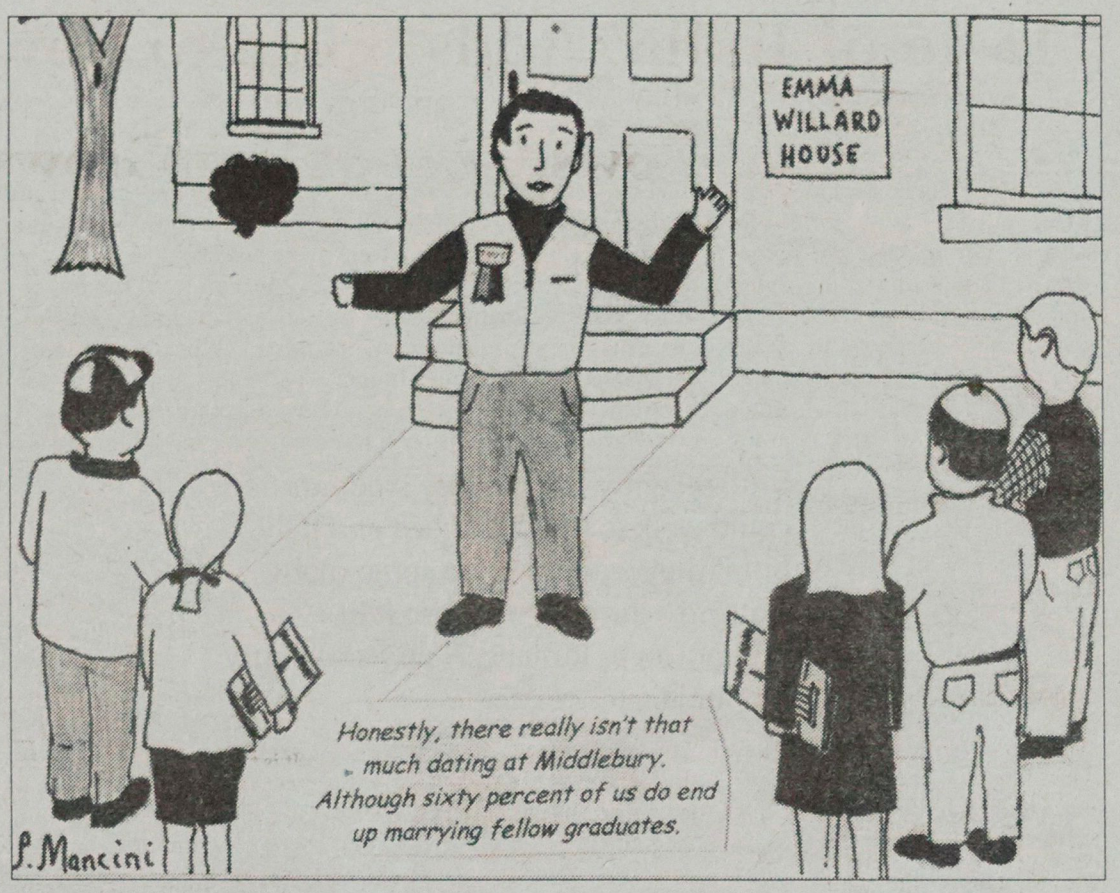
EMMA WILLARD HOUSE
Honestly, there really isn't that much dating at Middlebury. Although sixty percent of us do end up marrying fellow graduates.
S. Mancini

-Katherine West '01-

Exams Could Cheat Honor Code

I write in opposition to the Student Government Association's (SGA) proposal of self-scheduled exams. Ben Johns, in his proposal to the Faculty Educational Affairs Committee (EAC), suggests that this new method will "reduce students' incentive to cheat" and that the new system is "in step with strengthening the honor code."

I believe that Johns is largely misguided in these notions. First of all, self-scheduled exams will not reduce the incentive to cheat, rather they will foster a situation more conducive to cheating. Specifically, students will be more likely to cheat without even necessarily knowing it. A conversation as slight as the following, which is much more likely to take place with self-scheduled exams, is a form of cheating: Student 1, who has not taken the exam: "How was the exam, was it tough?" Student 2, who has taken the exam: "No, not too bad, but don't bother studying the stuff from the book, it really covers a lot of the class notes." This conversation is an example of academic dishonesty, in a fairly subtle form, but it is no less considered dishonesty—it is changing the situation for a student upon entrance to an exam. In addition, faculty members are expected not to create situations of undue temptation for students to cheat. How can this expectation of faculty and self-scheduled exams/alternative test days be reconciled?

The argument for enabling flexibility in travel is taken as a good intention, however with this as a main motivation for self-scheduled exams, one could argue that the "extra reviewing" that Johns suggests would be a moot point. With students trying simply to get out of here, the extra reviewing is not likely to occur. We should not accommodate flexibility in travel at the cost of academic integrity. With the current state of the Honor Code, we would essentially be placing travel plans over academic integrity. As of concern for students traveling long distances, particularly international students, cost and days of travel are pertinent points, however self-scheduled exams are not an essential solution. One of the best characteristics of Middlebury is that it is small and accommodating, and we have easy access to our faculty and deans when we need assistance. Exceptions have been made with the help of our deans and faculty, and this, I am confident, will continue to occur for students with extenuating circumstances. Furthermore, Johns suggests that self-scheduled exams will deter students from bringing "cheat-sheets" into exams because they will have had more time to review. I argue that students who would go to the length and take the risk of bringing a cheat-sheet into an exam are likely to do this regardless of "time for reviewing."

Self-scheduled exams will not reduce the incentive to cheat, rather they will foster a situation more conducive to cheating.

Self-scheduled exams are ideally a fine concept, however our Honor System and Honor Code are not ready for them. We need to increase the effectiveness of the Honor Code before testing it with this new system of exams. As the research by Assistant Professor of Psychology Augustus Jordan has shown, the Honor Code does need strengthening; it would be pushing it to its limits and potentially its breaking point if self-scheduled exams were imposed. Until the Honor Code is strengthened, Middlebury College is not ready for self-scheduled exams.

So what needs to be done to get the Honor Code at Middlebury ready for such a system? I believe that the Honor Code needs to be re-institutionalized and its importance needs to be stressed, particularly as new classes of first-years arrive. Its seriousness must be continually reinforced so that it becomes an everyday part of the conscious of students and faculty. The Honor Code has, over time, seeped into the woodwork of the College — we sign it before setting foot on campus, along with health forms, roommate questionnaires, laundry service offers and rent-a-fridge requests. We then hear a brief statement about the Honor

(see Self-Scheduled, page 16)

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Campus welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 1,000 words or less. Submit works to Campus@Middlebury.edu, Drawer 30 or directly to the Opinions Editors by 5 p.m. Tuesday.
The Campus retains the right to edit all submissions.

Corrections

A page-25 photo of Michelle Labbe '01 in the March 14 edition of ***The Campus*** should have been attributed to Russell Jaslow, USCHO.com.
The Campus regrets this error.

-Ty Kalra '04-

As Economy Slows, Squabbling Grows

With the economy slumping and the falling into the first bear market since 1987, there is much uncertainty in the minds of the American people. With the Federal Reserve issuing only conservative, .05 percent correction of interest rates, which as Paul McCulley, a bond manager at Primco, states, is "massively behind the curve," a conciliatory effect may not be in the near future.

This bi-partisan support is needed as the economy faces slowdown that is unprecedented in recent years.

The Dow Jones Industrial is below the 10,000 mark and the Nasdaq Composite, which was once sailing over 5000, is currently at 1850. The visible and immediate effects are the American People losing their portfolios and hirings are drastically slowing down.

The government has ostensibly seen these hard times and with the president's call for immediate action, the House of Representatives passed, this past Thursday, by a vote of 239-198, a $958 billion marginal tax rate reduction. Many Democrats attempted procedural delays to delay the outcome. Regardless, 10 Democrats crossed party affiliations to pass the bill for the sake of national interest.

This decisive initial step in making the president's proposed tax plan a reality, comes in the midst of economic crisis and is what the American people need to regain faith in our economy (and the ability of the government to initiate reform in the face of adversity).

President Bush, following the passage of the bill, told the House Speaker, Dennis Hasterd, "It's a strong message to the American people that the members of the U.S. Congress have heard loud and clear that if we set priorities and watch our spending habits, that we can send some meaningful money back to the people."

It is time for Democrats to realize that petty party politics cannot endure in our country's present situation. I think the saying, "desperate times call for desperate measures," rings true.

Many conservatives have recently proposed a plan that nets over $2 billion of aid to the American people, but the president steadfastly backs his initial plan, hoping that bi-partisan support will spillover from his initial weeks in office.

As Frank Pellegrini, a writer for *Time* magazine, reports, "If he [President Bush] swallows the estate tax reform," which would reduce the tax plan by an estimated $200 billion, the president could receive 60 votes in the Senate. This bi-partisan support is needed as the economy faces slowdown that is unprecedented in recent years.

It is time for Democrats to realize that petty party politics cannot endure in our country's present situation. I think the saying, "desperate times call for desperate measures," rings true.

Let the legislative branch perform an act of good faith and show the American people that they care about our current predicament. Let them pass this tax reform and, in turn, put some faith back into the hearts of their constituency.

-Kevin King '02-

JCs to Steal Student Housing Rights

The suspects may change, but the same crime is committed every spring: someone tries to steal your fair chance at room draw. Two years ago it was commons councils, last year it was co-chairs and academic interest houses and this year it's junior counselors (JCs). While I understand the motivation behind this oft-attempted, but seldom successful crime, I can't help but criticize the blatant manner in which this year's theft attempt has been committed.

The great room draw theft of 2001 is far from complete, and that's where you the reader come in.

A group of JCs, lead by Justin Drechsler '02, submitted a proposal to the Student Government Association (SGA) senate this past Sunday requesting two significant changes in room draw. First, the proposal would give JCs double the number of chips granted to other students for house and block draw. Second, the proposal would give JCs absolute preference in all commons and open draws. An indifferent, and largely uninformed SGA senate voted its support for the proposal by a one-vote margin.

While I appreciate the argument that JCs are currently under-compensated for their work, this proposal goes way too far in reconciling that problem, and does so at the expense of every other student at Middlebury.

This proposal is particularly injurious to rising seniors, whose fair shot at getting a house at block draw just got even more remote. Giving JCs twice as many chips as anyone else ultimately privileges students who are not JCs, and did no work for the college in order to earn the benefit. I say this because in order for a JC to use his or her chips at block draw, they must draw in with other students. Thus, this proposal compensates not only JCs with extra chips but also their friends. Furthermore, the rules and guidelines for this year's room draw have already been established and distributed to students. Changing the rules of this game at this stage would not only be confusing, but disingenuous.

Even first-years stand to lose out here, given that they too will be rising seniors some day, and might well want a fair shot at block draw too.

I sponsored an alternative recommendation for JC room compensation that gave them first choice in any commons draw, a proposal which I see as fair and more than enough to help JCs "break even" for their work junior year. Though this proposal lost out by a single vote, there is no need to despair. The great room draw theft of 2001 is far from complete, and that's where you, the reader, come in. I urge students of all classes to call Karu Kozuma, Residential Systems Coordinator, to register their displeasure with this unfair and untimely proposal. Even first-years stand to lose out here, given that they too will be rising seniors some day, and might well want a fair shot at block draw too.

Make no mistake, this spring's room draw heist is underway, and only you can stop it.

Kevin King is the SGA Social House Representative

Pocketbook Politics:

-Brian Ashley '04-

Flag Rights and Tax Cuts: A Responsible Look

Last week Ben LaBolt wrote that the Vermont House of Representatives voted last week on a resolution extending the state's support of a flag protection amendment to the U.S. Congress. In his editorial he expressed in the most flagrantly unpatriotic form his disapproval of this resolution, and I would like to address his argument. LaBolt writes, "In a way, I am burning the flag every week when I write to condemn President Bush's most recent actions." However, it is obvious that LaBolt does not know what it means to be both an American and a citizen. I hate Bill Clinton. I always did and I always will; however, I have never burned a flag and I never will. I love this great country of ours because it is the greatest nation on the face of the earth. We are not only a symbol of freedom and democracy, but also a controller of world movements and events. I criticize many aspects of our government and those people who run it. However, what LaBolt seems to forget is that the flag does not stand for George Bush, Bill Clinton or even George Washington; it stands for everything that America and its history were and are as a whole. The flag is the one sacred symbol that is universally understood to bring the ideas of peace and freedom to the minds of its citizens. I do not condone governmentally imposed morality, but I also feel that some things are sacred to the core of our nation. When you send off young men to their deaths carrying a symbol of our country and simultaneously allow unruly citizens to burn it, you degrade its message and you destroy its power.

When you send off young men to their deaths and simultaneously allow unruly citizens to burn (the flag), you degrade its message and you destroy its power.

LaBolt can criticize the government's actions all he wants, but in life you have three options: live with it, change it or get out. He obviously doesn't want to live with it, his burning of the flag isn't going to change anything in Congress (such as a letter to a representative would), so it looks like he and his flag burners have one option left: get out. I am sure he would realize just how lucky he is to live under the great sphere of power that surrounds the American flag. If he spent a few years in Iraq or some such. I do not mean to sit here and tell everyone what to say and do. Quite the opposite, I simply feel that while the privilege to burn the flag may empower the privilege to raise it in some perverted form, there are some things in this world that are sacred. To me, burning the flag as an American is akin to a Catholic burning a figure of Christ on the cross or a Jew burning the Star of David. It just doesn't make sense and it doesn't get us anywhere. It is inflammatory and hurtful to those who gave their lives to its cause and the flag deserves our protection.

Stop, change gears, let's talk about taxes. This past week I overheard several students criticizing the proposed Bush tax cut. These apparently unenlightened students were pointing out that they thought that the $1.6 trillion would do a lot more good in a lump sum for the government's use in bettering the lives of the poor and neglected, than in small sums in the hands of the citizens and taxpayers. I feel that this is the perfect time to explain how a tax cut works. The point of this tax cut is not to give those who qualify a check from the government that they can take to the bank, cash and then store the money under their mattress.

The whole point is that the government wants to channel the surplus into the economy, but it lacks the routes to the economy. That is where we fit in. We are the perfect way. We represent what Americans want and buy and what they value most. Furthermore, the government cannot simply distribute the extra cash from airplanes hoping it will make its way into balance sheets and investment vehicles. The whole idea of this tax cut is to rejuvenate our crestfallen economy and stir up the numbers. An increase in the cash that Americans have will increase the amount of loanable funds, decreasing interest rates, enabling people to finance more housing, businesses, etc. Even though a lot of the tax cut goes to the rich, remember, the rich do pay most of the taxes. And after all, they will end up spending it or investing it; it is what rich people do with their money, and both options are good for everyone.

The government cannot simply distribute the extra cash from airplanes hoping it will make its way into balance sheets.

-Heidi Crockett '02-

A Concern for Others May Be Key to Meaningful Life

The following quote comes from an anonymous worker at MiddXpress: "Oh yeah, most of the kids here, I'd say at least 70 percent are. . . (a pause). . . well, they're a**holes."

The briefest of moments constitute the potential for living a meaningful life.

This quote comes after I had asked this person if many people talked to him or her. I walk out of the store with my chips. "Just another typical night," I think to myself. As I'm walking back to The Grille to study, more of the conversation begins to drift back into my mind:

"Yeah, but I talk with you," I had answered in a good-natured tone.

"Yeah, but you're different," the person replied in a tone that was half laughing, half sad.

Thirty minutes later, I can't concentrate on my reading. Why is my behavior "different"? Yes, I'm overly friendly sometimes, but that doesn't mean that even shy people can't say "hi" or make eye contact with the workers at MiddXpress. Now my mind starts racing to other aspects of social interaction at Middlebury. . . Are people rude or are they afraid? Why don't we interact more?

Reading this, one might get the idea that I'm pleading for a little more good cheer and kindness in interaction between students and staff. While this is one point of the article, I am attempting to state something much larger, as well. This person at MiddXpress is my friend now because in chatting occasionally we established a rapport, then a friendship.

Yes, I'm overly friendly sometimes, but that doesn't mean that even shy people can't say "hi" or make eye contact with workers at MiddXpress.

In my opinion, noticing the people around you, knowing that they've had broken hearts, remembering that they've laughed and cried like you and then treating them with the dignity and respect you'd naturally give to yourself if you were in their position, builds an awareness I long to see on this campus. I believe cultivating such awareness is the missing link between the college Middlebury is today and the school many people on campus envisage it to be.

The briefest of moments constitute the potential for living a meaningful life. However, the meaning can only come from choices you make about what type of person you want to be and what type of world you want to live in. The choice is up to you.

A Little Taste of Reality

- Lisa Engelstein '01 & Ruth Howell '01-

Chew on This:

In 1999, 98 inmates were executed, more than in any other year since the early 1950s.

- Of persons executed in 1999:
  - 61 were white
  - 33 were black
  - 2 were American Indian
  - 2 were Asian
- All of those executed in 1999 were men.
- 38 states in 1999 had capital statutes.

Source: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/cp.htm

- The United States is one of a handful of countries that still executes people.
- There are currently more than 3,500 people on death row — more than at any time in U.S. history.
- Since 1976, more than 580 people have been executed in the United States. Over 50 percent of those have been killed since 1992.
- More than three-quarters of all executions since 1976 took place in southern states.

Five Reasons Against the Death Penalty

1) The death penalty is racist: The 1972 Furman vs. Georgia case abolished the death penalty for four years on the grounds that capital punishment was rife with racial disparities. Over 25 years later, those disparities are as glaring as ever.

African Americans are 12 percent of the U.S. population, but are 43 percent of prisoners on death row. Although black people constitute 50 percent of all murder victims, 83 percent of the victims in death penalty cases are white.

Since 1976 only 10 executions involved a white defendant who had killed a black victim.

In all, only 37 of the over 18,000 executions in this country's history involved a white person being punished for killing a black person.

A comprehensive Georgia study found that killers of white people are 4.3 times more likely to receive a death sentence than killers of black people.

More than 75 percent of those on federal death row are non-white. Of the 156 federal death penalty prosecutions approved by the Attorney General since 1988, 74 percent of the defendants were non-white.

2) The death penalty punishes the poor.: Over 90 percent of defendants charged with capital crimes are indigent and cannot afford to hire an experienced criminal defense attorney to represent them. They are forced to use inexperienced, underpaid court-appointed attorneys. In most states the pay for court appointed attorneys is so low that lawyers assigned to capital cases will lose $20-$30 an hour if they do an adequate job. In Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi defense attorneys are paid a flat fee of $1,000 — which translates into about $5 an hour for most lawyers.

In 1996 Clinton cut federal funding to 20 legal resource centers which provided counsel to poor defendants. Now, all of the centers that received this funding have shut down.

Many capital trials last less than a week—hardly enough time to present a good defense.

3) The death penalty condemns the innocent to die: Since 1976, more than 82 people have been released from prison after being sentenced to death despite their innocence. In other words, one in seven of those on death row have been freed after being fully exonerated.

The book, "In Spite of Innocence," notes that between 1900 and 1992 there have been 416 documented cases of innocent persons who have been convicted and given a death sentence. The authors discovered that in 23 of these cases, the person was executed.

Clinton has called appeals by death-row prisoners "ridiculous" and "interminable." He signed a law that limits prisoners to a single habeas corpus appeal within one year of conviction. Under this law, many of those released from death row due to innocence since 1976 would be dead.

4) The death penalty is not a deterrent to violent crime: An FBI study shows that states which have abolished the death penalty averaged lower murder rates than states which have not.

5) The death penalty is "cruel and unusual punishment": In the decades since Furman, 13 people have been executed who were under the age of 18 when they committed the crime for which they were convicted. Seventy more juveniles are currently on death row awaiting execution.

Since Furman, 34 mentally disabled inmates have been executed.

Source: http://www.nodeathpenalty.org/fiveReasons.html

Our Digestion:

In the 1990s, public support for the death penalty increased partially due to the "get tough on crime" political agenda. Yet, advocates of the death penalty often are not aware of the cultural context surrounding the death penalty. There is a significant difference between supporting the death penalty on a theoretical level and supporting the realistic application of the death penalty in our imperfect society. Death penalty decisions are influenced by the racism and classism ubiquitous in our society. Moreover, our flawed legal system magnifies these inequalities. We therefore must recognize the social factors that tacitly contribute to the support and decisions of the death penalty.

Self-Scheduled Exams: Will We Honor the Code?

(continued from page 6)

System during orientation when our heads are being crammed with new information and our senses are overwhelmed by our new surroundings. Is it possible that this is insufficient for emphasizing the importance of the Honor Code?

We need to open dialogue about why the Honor Code is an important part of the College, and use that as a springboard for revamping its presence.

Other things that will help bring the Honor Code into its full potential include all faculty demanding the full and correct honor pledge on graded work—this serves as a continual reminder of our contract to abide by the Honor Code, and writing out the full pledge as opposed to phrases such as "No Cheat" or "I pledge" reiterates its importance. In addition, more education on plagiarism should take place, as this is one of the more difficult and ambiguous concepts to grasp.

These things will not happen overnight, and they will take the effort of students, faculty and administration; however, the efforts and changes will pay off, and perhaps then, self-scheduled exams should be considered.

Katherine West is the chair of the Student Judicial Council (SJC) and a member of the Honor Code Review Committee (HCRC). These are her opinions and not necessarily those of the SJC or the HCRC.

SPEAK OUT!

The SGA has proposed that all exams be either self-scheduled or offered on more than one date. The faculty and Educational Affairs Committee, however, are concerned that they would increase student cheating.

WHAT IS YOUR OPINION OF SELF-SCHEDULED EXAMS?

2% They will probably increase cheating, so the College should avoid them as much as possible.

23% Cheating will increase slightly but self-scheduled exams are still a good idea.

75% The College should trust students' honor pledge and make self-scheduled exams College policy.

(3/21/01; 100 students polled in Proctor)

STUDENTS SPEAK OUT:

"Self-scheduled exams show that the College believes in the Honor Code. Thinking we will cheat more shows the lack of trust the College has in both the student body and the honor code." —Nina Kieves '02

"I personally do not like self-scheduled exams for lack of study motivation; however, I think most students find them convenient and are trustworthy to test without cheating." — Venessa Wong '04

"Middlebury students are adults and should be treated as such." —Catherine Dalton '01

FOR NEXT WEEK'S SPEAK OUT, GO TO WWW.MIDDLEBURY.EDU/~CAMPUS

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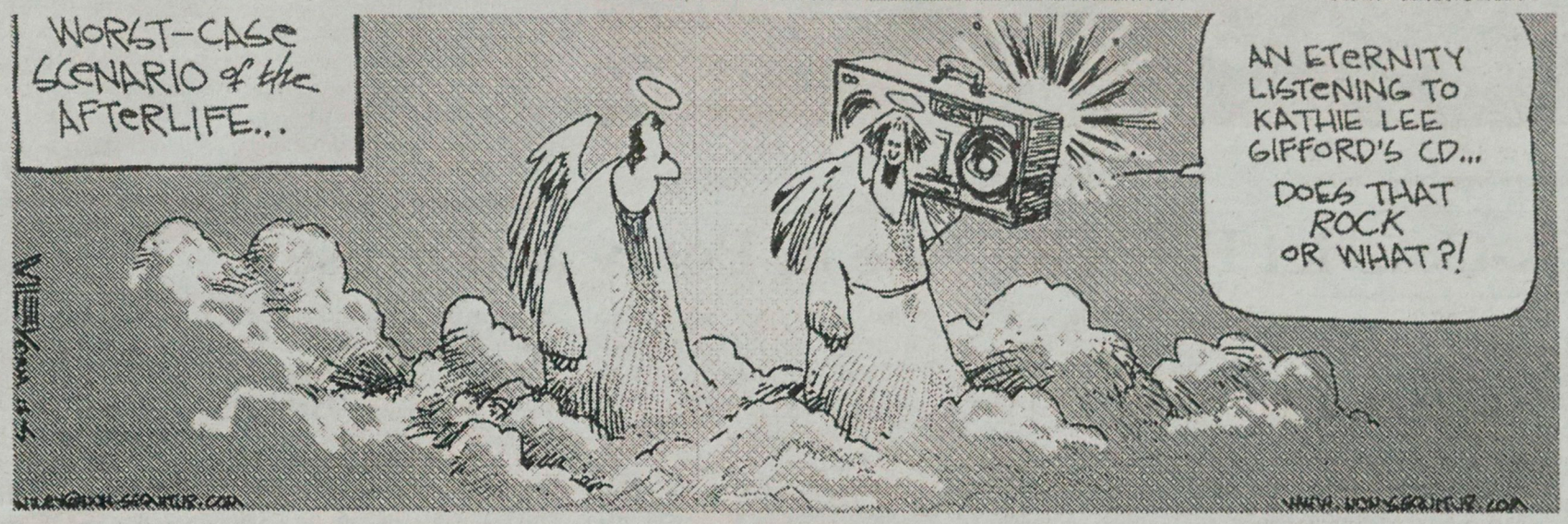
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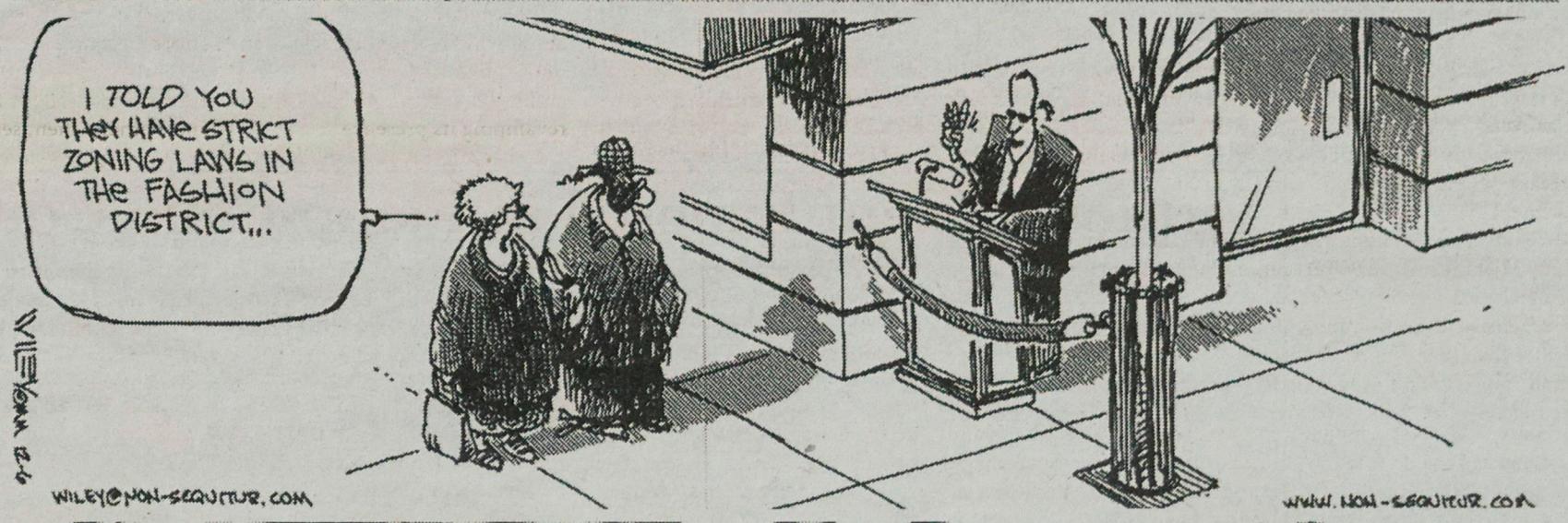
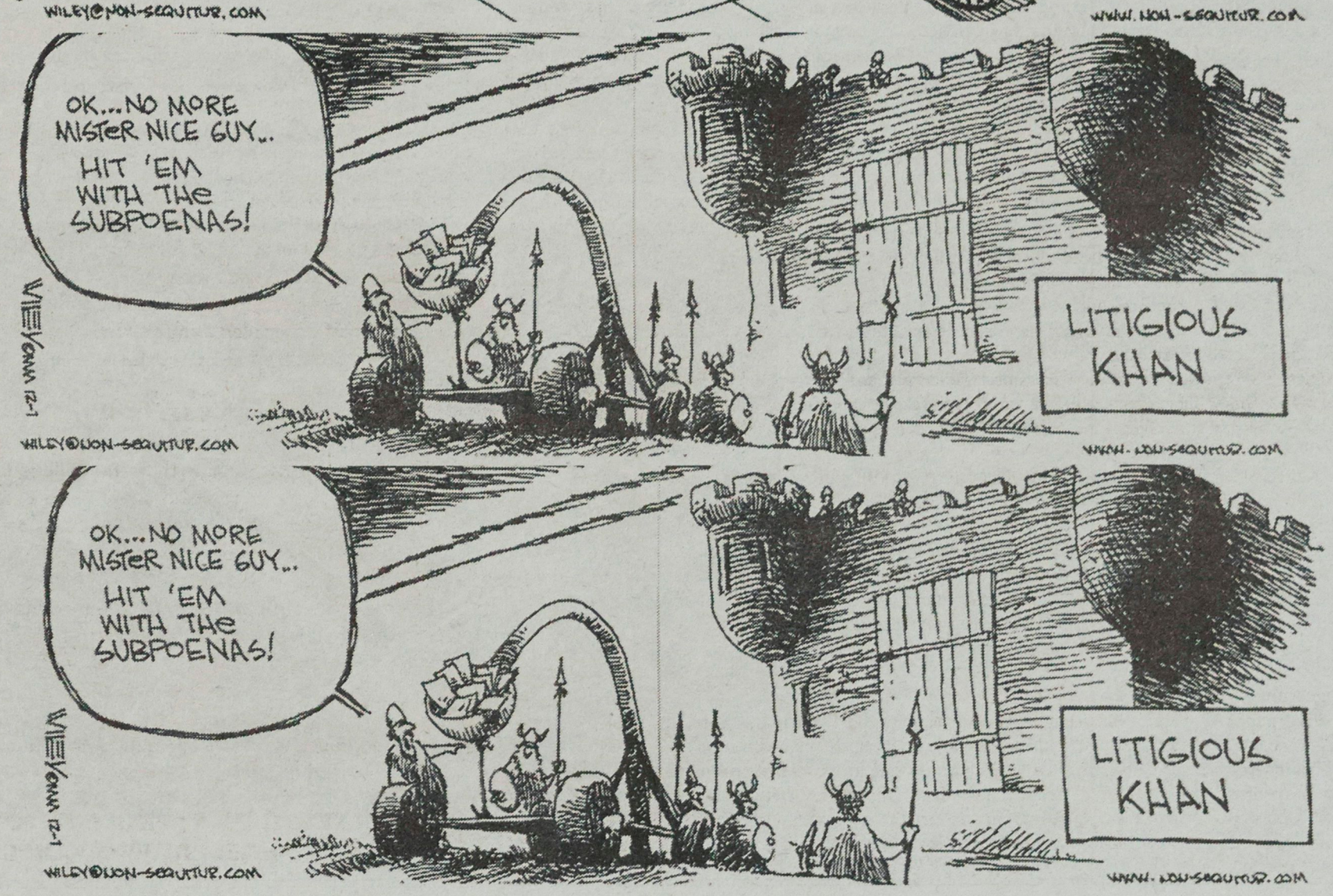




'Voices' Delves Deep Into the Pursuit of Art

Courtesy Photo

In a collage of dramatic texts, the cast of 'Voices' explored the relationships between art, gender and oppression.

By Christopher Richards
Staff Writer

Sitting down in the Hepburn Zoo this past week for the first part of the Spring Repertory Company's "The (Re)Presentation of Oppression: Untitled: the Sounds of Unheard Voices," I expected drama, anguish, the downtrodden and ignored voices of the world, and well, oppression. However, like an audience member that had sat down expecting a Robert Wilson 18 hour opera that finds himself trapped in a production of "Cats," the performance startled me with the voices of upper-class, mostly white male writers, and material that represented oppression about as well as a Meg Ryan romantic comedy.

While the production may not have achieved what it set out to, it still displayed material that raised questions about the role and purpose of art, challenged notions of women's roles in society and explored a range of worlds and diverse texts even though its playwrights have similarities. Despite the production's shortcomings there is something glorious about what it attempted to do. Theater as an art form is immediate and provoking; it is a medium that allows direct engagement during a live event with its audience. This production used the form to attempt to provoke its audience and drive them to think about art and the world around them in a new way.

The production was divided into two nights of theater and featured a collage of scenes arranged by theme: the politics of art, the politics of men and women, the politics of oppression and the politics of despair and hope. The production operated as a collage piece that utilized movement from the ensemble and particular repeating images to create a cohesive feel to the work even though the topics operated in a disparate fashion.

Appropriately the piece began with an exploration of the nature and purpose of art through a series of scenes and choral readings. By beginning with this exploration, the piece commented on itself by encouraging the audience to see the importance of art and to think about questions of artistic responsibility and whether or not art can truly represent the people.

These pieces displayed creative staging, and the directorial work of guest director Andra Harbold and Cheryl Faraone, professor of theater, dance and film/video, utilized the Hepburn Zoo space in

(see 'Voices,' page 20)

Ex-Convict Finds Release in Poety and Prose

By Rob Verger
Staff Writer

Picture this: a gang of young Hispanic men stick-up a nightclub in Spanish Harlem—but something goes wrong. The police show up and a gunfight begins. Piri Thomas, a young man of 18, trades shots with a police officer. Suddenly he feels the sting of a bullet and realizes that he's been shot. He fires back and the bullets find their mark: Thomas has wounded a cop. A judge gives him five to 10 years in prison; he serves seven. But during the long years in jail, he decides to become a writer and the famous novel "Down These Mean Streets" is born.

All of this I learned during the presentation by Thomas, held Friday afternoon in the Robert A. Jones '59 House. I sat riveted for an hour and a half as Thomas told the story of his fascinating and difficult life, holding us captivated as he lectured, read poetry and told stories.

From the very beginning I was impressed,— and inspired — by this Hispanic poet. He stood proudly over the podium and by looking at him I found it hard to believe that he was a 72-year-old ex-convict. He stood before me as an impressive figure, and the story he told of his life was even more impressive.

Born in the hospital in Spanish Harlem, Piri Thomas was the oldest of six brothers and one sister. From the very beginning he pointed out to us that the most important figure to him as a young child was his mother, who had only a fifth grade education but had "her doctorate in wisdom." Despite her best guidance, Thomas turned early to a life on the streets, which were "long, strong and very wrong."

He quickly became immersed in the self-defeating and almost unavoidable street culture of crime, gangs and drugs. Thomas and his gang would rob stores for money. Cocaine and the "sharp dull burning" of heroin were parts of their daily lives. The world that Thomas described was a brutal, unforgiving one, where violence, hate and racism were the rules of the road; Thomas was frequently called not only a "spick" but also a "ni**er."

But everything changed as a result of the gunfight in the nightclub, after which Thomas was pulled from the streets and began his hard time in prison. It was in jail that Thomas says he began to "think a lot," and decided that "the worst prison is the prison of the mind." He decided that he would set himself free and begin to write. Thomas was undeterred by the fact that he had failed English in high school—he just spelled phonetically.

Three-quarters of the classic "Down These Mean Streets" were written in prison and it marked the beginning of a long and rich career as a writer and poet. The poems and stories that we heard on Friday reflected his childhood, the life of the streets and the life of prison. His images were rich and striking, as sharp and powerful as a Harlem knife fight; the beat was quick and seemed to capture the tone and cadence of gang life. Spanish was mixed into almost every poem and story—a language that I do not speak—but I found that it did not detract at all from the performance, it only enriched it.

(see Poet-Author, page 20)

Virtuoso Talent Exposed in Piano-Cello Concert

By Kate DeForest
Arts Editor

Studying at a small liberal arts college wealthy both in terms of personnel and finance, there are many opportunities that fall out from the heading of academia and under the heading of privilege. Being able to attend a performance by the duo of Dieuwke Davydov and Diana Fanning fits well into that category; hearing the music that the two produce was well a privilege.

The duo performed works by Beethoven, Schumann, Bartók and Richard Strauss in the Center for the Arts Concert Hall Saturday as a sort of send-off for their upcoming European tour. The concert was free (another aspect of the privileges of the College and its community) and quite well attended, despite the lure presented by the green beer of St. Patrick's Day.

Both performers are faculty members at the College – Davydov teaches cello at the College, Fanning is on the applied music faculty – but their credentials far exceed their titles. Fanning has toured, both as a recitalist and chamber musician, throughout the eastern United States, as well as England, France, Switzerland, Holland and Germany. She often appears as a concert soloist with the Vermont Symphony Orchestra (VSO) alos has been a member of the Ruggieri Chamber Soloists and a guest artist with the Alexander String Quartet. Davydov, a native of Holland, graduated from the Amsterdam Conservatory and has also studied at the Julliard School, where she was invited after winning first prize in the Jeunesse Musicale International Competition in London. She has performed in recitals and as a soloist in Amsterdam, Berlin, London, Geneva, Brussels and Paris, as well as New Haven, Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Washington, as well as with the VSO and Orquestra Sinfonica Nacional in Panama and the Nairobi Symphony Orchestra in Kenya, Africa. Currently she is a member of the VSO.

However impressive their credentials may be apart, together they are highly acclaimed. After winning the Concert Artists Guild International Competition in New York City, they debuted at Carnegie Hall. They have also been presented in radio recordings, specifically the "Morning Pro Musica" Live Performers Series over WGBH-FM, Boston, the Young Artists Series on WNYC and various Vermont Public Radio performances. They left March 20 for a tour of France, Switzerland and Holland.

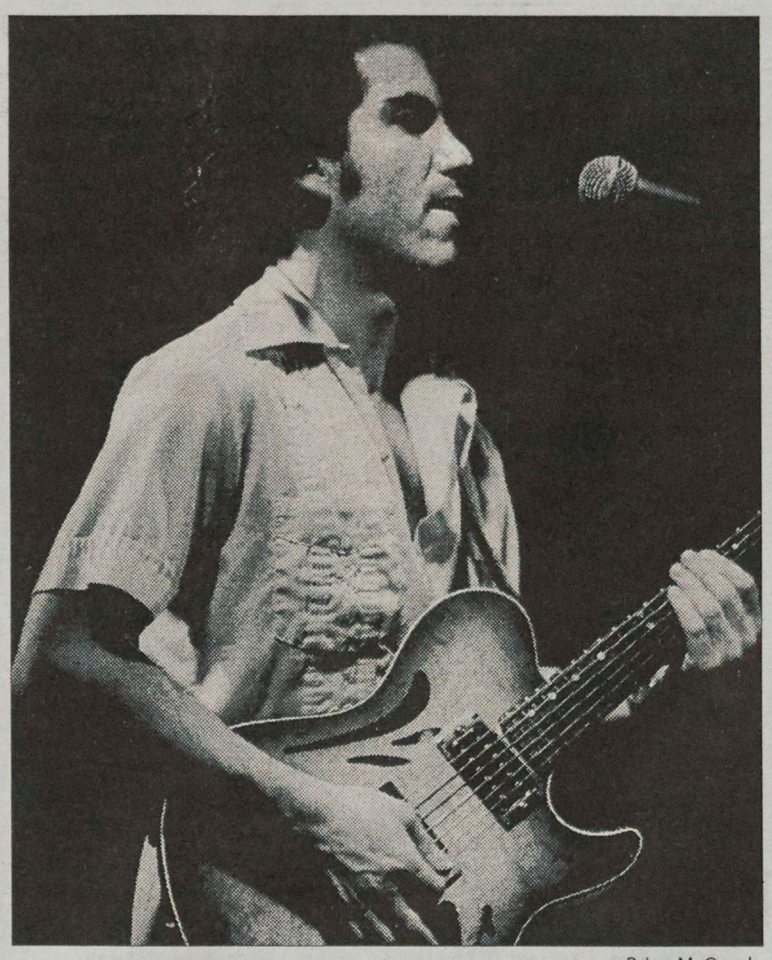
The evening's program began with Beethoven's Twelve Variations, Op.66, on "Ei Madchen oder Weibchen," from Mozart's "Die Zauberflote." The piece began with a twinkling piano melody that slowly evolved into a deeper, more mournful tune. The cello's richness was complemented by undertones of piano throughout the variation, returning eventually to the light air with which the piece began. Beethoven seems to have delighted in the range of emotional value one melody could inspire, just as Davydov and Fanning seemed to delight in bringing that melody to the audience.

Schumann's Adagio and Allegro, Op.70 followed. A slower piece, it was played with careful delibera-

(see Classical, page 21)

Eryn Kline

Pianist Diana Fanning and cellist Dieuwke Davydov played in the CFA Concert Hall Friday night.



Brian McQuade

Fuzz, lead guitarist of Deep Banana Blackout, performed on Wednesday night with his band at the Higher Ground in Winooski.

'Banana Blackout' Brings in the Funk

By Mike Csaszar
Staff Writer

On March 14, Deep Banana Blackout (DBB) kicked off the first show of their spring tour at Higher Ground in Burlington. I could not have been luckier to have been there to see the extravaganza unfold. Never have I seen such a varied collection of percussionists, vocalists and musicians on one stage.

The show actually featured two bands that have come out of nowhere in recent years to surprise the music industry. Ruby Horse kicked the show off. Ruby Horse began playing at pubs in Ireland in 1997 and since then has received three Boston Music Awards, a WFNX Music Poll Award and landed a major recording deal with Interscope Records.

The band performed several songs from their recently released album, "How Far Have You Come?" including "Evergreen" and "Teenage Distraction." The band is best described as a combination of U2, Oasis and the Goo Goo Dolls. Their music is tight and lead singer Dave Ferrell's vocals are crisp and to the point; however, they simply seem to lack the originality to inspire the crowd. Most songs can be easily compared to other bands, but I can't deny their talent and potential as rising stars.

DBB took the stage around 10:45 p.m. and wasted no time getting the crowd going. They opened up with back to back songs including old school favorite, "Getcha'll In The Mood." By the third song, the whole crowd was chanting "Deep Banana Blackout" and not a single person at Higher Ground was standing still. The array of instruments and combination of vocalists makes for something truly original.

Hope Clayburn played both alto sax and flute, sometimes playing the two in the same song. Rob Sommerville played tenor sax and soprano sax, Benj LeFevre was on bass, Fuzz (yes, that is his name) on guitar, Cyrus Madan on organ and hand drums and both Johnny Durkin and Eric Kalb were on percussion. Vocals were provided by Clayburn, Sommerville, LeFevre and Fuzz, coming together to create wonderful harmonies and interesting solos within songs. There were times when Clayburn or Sommerville would pick up a tambourine or spinner laying around and somehow work it into the rhythm. Madan would be playing keyboards one song and then next he would be grooving on hand drums. Eight musicians, four vocalists and more than 12 instruments created an amazing stage performance, not to mention a sheer magnitude of sound.

The set featured songs that integrated jazz, funk, rock, reggae, blues, samba beats and everything in between. The array of scales, sound variances, polyrhythms and the way the whole band fed off one another made every song a new groove, a new dance. DBB pleased the crowd relying on their standards, "Standing on the Verge," "God Made Me Funky," "Bump and Sway" and "Anesthetic Highway," as well as songs from their upcoming record. Needless to say, the show went well into Thursday morning everyone staying until the last note was played.

DBB formed in the summer of 1995. They released their first album in 1997, and they've only risen in fame since then. They truly stand alone when it comes to their sound, ingenuity and ability to get the crowd involved in their music. There is no way to characterize their music in a single word. All you can do is listen and appreciate, trying to stick DBB into a category would only detract from the scope of their music.

In a day where boy bands and pop stars dominate the radio waves, it was refreshing to see a band that is still writing their own music and still having fun playing it. Both DBB and Higher Ground deserve praise for playing and promoting orignal non-commercial music; may they long continue to do so.

'Defending Our Lives' Spotlights Domestic Abuse

By Joya Scott
Staff Writer

On Thursday, March 15, Feminist Action at Middlebury sponsored a viewing of the Academy Award-winning 1993 documentary "Defending Our Lives," by Cambridge Documentary Films.

This film was a powerful, painful exposition of the epidemic of domestic violence in America and its Middlebury audience seemed to be deeply impacted by its stories.

The film commenced with a presentation taped at a domestic violence conference at Harvard University. The speaker began by simply recounting a long series of names — all the women murdered in one year by their husbands or boyfriends in Massachusetts.

The sheer length of the list, read by a woman who was also an abuse survivor, was extremely moving. Throughout the documentary, the stories of four different women were interspersed with footage from the conference, providing both individual and more wide-ranging points of view.

The four women each had a unique story, but all of their experiences shared common elements. All the women were severely beaten by their husbands or boyfriends over a long period of time.

All of them had tried to run away at one point or another and their abuser had hunted them down.

All the women had encountered a degree of apathy on the part of the police; anywhere from the simple lack of any police response to their 911 calls to a refusal to arrest the batterers when the police did arrive.

Many of the women had been sexually abused, raped and beaten so horribly that they were nearly killed — even while they were pregnant. And in the end, all of the women interviewed had killed their abusers because they feared for their own lives — almost all of them in definitive, obvious acts of self-defense — all of them were serving prison time for their acts.

This film was extremely effective in its goal of boosting awareness of and empathy for domestic violence survivors.

Only at the end of the piece was it revealed that the women had killed their batterers . . . one could not help but be outraged at their prison sentences . . .

By engaging its viewers in the women's first-hand accounts of their experiences of abuse, "Defending Our Lives" created a persuasive argument for legislative, social and personal action to insure that this abuse no longer occurs.

Only at the end of the piece was it revealed that the women had killed their batterers and at this point, one could not help but be outraged at their prison sentences considering the situations in which they had committed these acts.

The literature accompanying the video included a variety of horrifying statistics.According to the film, "Over 50 percent of the women killed in the United States are killed by male intimate partners or ex-partners" (Journal of the American Medical Association, 1992) and that "In a 1985 National Crime Survey, one out of six American couples experience at least one incident involving physical assault" (Gelles & Straus, Physical Violence in American Families).

Also, most strikingly, "Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women between the ages of 15 and 44 in the United States—more than rapes, muggings and automobile accidents combined" (Surgeon General, United States, 1992).

While these figures are a few years old, they serve as a powerful reminder of the misogyny remaining in our society.

It is too easy to forget that these phenomena still exist in the modern world. The film helped to expose the acts of brutality that are frequently committed against women in our culture and the viewers – both male and female – at Thursday's screening were visibly moved and outraged.

In fact, the video prompted a long discussion afterward, regarding both the abuse taking place in the larger world and here at Middlebury. Despite the fact that many in the student body do not experience violence in their intimate relationships, several of the students at the screening asserted that abuse does, in fact, take place on campus and that action must be taken to not only avert violence before it happens but also provide more resources for those who are abused. If only for its assistance in advancing this dialogue, "Defending Our Lives" is an important and relevant film both here on campus and in the rest of society.

For more information on preventing violence against women, keep a look out for announcements of events during "Take Back the Night" Week in April.

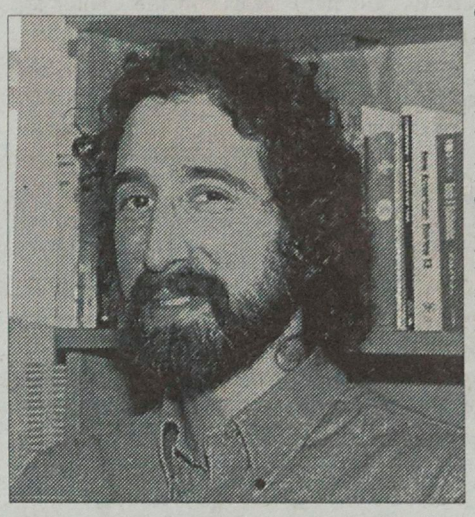
'Inspired Sleep' an Inspired Read

By Jeff Price
Staff Writer

As an introduction to a reading from his then upcoming novel, "Inspired Sleep," at last summer's Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, Robert Cohen lowered his gaze over his long nose and said: "Anxiety…I'm for it." The comment merited a collective chuckle from an audience composed mostly of frantic writers. That commentary, while humorous, proves valuable in a society where the answer to any problem might seem to be just a pill away. "The unease and the solution," as Cohen pens it, is one of the fundamental dialectics in America today.

With carefully crafted, highly colorful prose, Cohen delves deep into a life sunk in the minutiae of existence. One of his protagonists, Bonnie Saks, embarks on a quest to attain a fitful night's rest. An insomniac, former Thoreau buff and single mother, Saks seeks relief from an endless trail of papers and complaints, negligent lovers and urgent requests (from her children, from her students, from a father whose child is in the same class as Sak's younger son). On top of all else, she is pregnant.

Ian Ogelvie, sleep researcher and grant junkie, counterweighs Saks' plight from the other side of things, seemingly secure within the branch from which relief does blossom: the medical industry. With practiced casualness, Cohen marches Saks and Ogelvie toward a moment of intersection, a meeting of lives that proves to be far-reaching in net-effect while all but imperceptible as registered on the surface. Contrast this with the purported affair Bonnie gives into with the disaffectedly charming, hash-smoking lawyer whose child is in the same grade as her younger boy, and you will get an idea of Cohen's sense of how the scales ultimately balance out.



Eric Skovsted

The result is an entertaining, often hilarious story with more than a few insights on the those murky chemical bindings of the mind. The narrative, focused on the meeting of two dissimilar protagonists, is loosely drawn off of Samuel Beckett's "Molloy" (Cohen pays an overt tribute by lending the name to a bit character), with Bonnie, middle aged mother of two, as a modern-day stand-in for the anonymous, ever-increasingly crippled, talking head of Beckett's work. For those unfamiliar with "Molloy," the piece utilizes an unusual structure, creating two seemingly unrelated monologues in two parts. Unlike Beckett, however, Cohen's characters are grounded in the concrete world of everyday structures and recognizable brands. Somehow, they still find themselves slipping loose into the humorous but painful vagaries of Beckett's fascination.

(see Novel, page 21)

Gentle Smile, Sweet Voice

Eric Skovsted

Comfortable and confident in the days before her performance, *soprano Heather Reichert '01 stares down the camera. Her performence in the CFA on Sunday marked the conclusion of her senior project.*

Poet-Author Promotes Peace and Diversity

(continued from page 18)

Closing my eyes, listening to Thomas' words, I could almost feel what it would have been like to be in a gang—how the world of drugs and crime could take you over until it destroyed you. The violence seemed very real. In one poem, laced with imagery of gang warfare, Thomas asked, "Ever punched a guy in the mouth with a garbage can handle?" The more I learned about the life that Thomas had survived and left behind, the more I began to respect who he is today.

Unlike life on the streets, Thomas' message . . . was clear and simple: racial tolerance and acceptance, peace and pride.

Unlike life on the streets, Thomas' message on Friday was clear and simple: racial tolerance and acceptance, peace and pride. He declared that he hates the word "minority," because he feels that it minimizes a person's feeling of self-worth and instead refers to himself as a "majority of one." He explained that he calls himself this because he feels that it better represents who he is: an empowered and strong individual who does not have to be placed into an ethnic category.

Perhaps the story which received the biggest response from Friday's audience was one from his early childhood, which provided a nice break from the brutal descriptions of gang life. In the vivid words of a prose-poem, he recalled an incident when his father had dropped a quarter and how young Thomas had quickly scooped it up and slid it into his sock.

His father, noticing the lost money, ordered everyone to help look for it on the floor. Thomas described, to the howling laughter of the crowd, how he had vigorously and energetically pretended to look for the quarter, hoping his father would let the issue drop. But Thomas was to have no such luck. He described the horror he felt as his father searched his pockets and then his socks, one at a time.

When he was finally caught red-handed, he ran like the wind and hid. Our response turned from laughter to gasps as Thomas described his father pulling off his belt to beat him.

The story ended with his mother's desperate shout for her husband not to beat little Thomas in the head—she didn't want him to become *loco*—and then his father's confession that if he had simply asked for the quarter, he would have given it to him. It was a moving, emotional story, representing well the bitter-sweet nature of Thomas's life.

Of all the stories that Thomas graced us with on Friday, one of the images stood out for me as most striking: it was a description of seeing a concentration camp survivor on the streets of Europe and looking deep into his eyes. Thomas described for us the horror that he saw in that man's gaze and used it as a symbol of what hate could do, of how powerful and destructive a force it really is. This image, along with the hundreds of others that Thomas painted for us, was more than enough for me to agree.

In addition to being a fantastic storyteller and poet, Piri Thomas struck me simply as an amazing person. He filled the crowded room with a feeling of warmth, humor and sadness that I have rarely felt before, and his vivacity, even at 72, was tangible. He closed his lecture to strong applause. It seemed as though his message was strongly embraced.

'Voices' Calls Out to Audience but Reply Hazy

(continued from page 18)

ways that I have never seen before. The staging allowed me as an audience member to see why theater is a special art form. The audience setup of runway style seating allowed the ensemble to surround the spectators from all sides, and the use of ladders as well as the wood beams several feet high in the building's structure created striking vertical images. Overall the experience was very intimate, and I felt completely surrounded by the world that the actor's were creating, giving me a sense of immediate communion with the ensemble, the creators of this piece, in a way that no other art form could give me.

The scenes were along the lines of modern romantic comedies and had little to say about the relations between the sexes or the ways in which society views gender.

The next segment, the "Politics of Men and Women," while being the most enjoyable segment, and the most interesting to watch, was perhaps the least progressive or challenging portion. With the exception of Jen Driscoll's '02 portrayal of a painter's model challenging gender stereotypes, the segment did little to push the ways we look at gender and relationships between men and women. However, in a piece consisting of a phone conversation between two lovers, Nick Vail '02 and Laura Yee '01 gave two of the most shining and captivating performances of the collage, with their sensitive portrayals of a couple feeling out their budding relationship and combating issues of jealousy. That segment was followed by a markedly kinetic and physical scene between Vail and Ami Formica '03, which added to the high point of the first evening.

Even though these scenes were a delight to watch and featured some novel uses of the Zoo space and some really nice moments from the ensemble, these segments did little to raise questions about the "Politics of Men and Women" or to give us perspectives from "unheard voices." The scenes were along the lines of modern romantic comedies and had little to say about the relations between the sexes or the ways in which society views gender.

One awkward attempt at giving a voice to an ignored or demeaned group was a scene about civil union developments in Vermont. But in a sequence filled with romantic comedy-esque moments and women's issues, this allusion to homosexuality seemed like a step towards tokenism. The piece had nothing to say about the civil unions, and really didn't give much of a perspective from homosexuals themselves. It largely voiced the sentiments of the courts and the voices of homophobes and hate mongers. The play seemed to say that homosexuality is a difficult subject and a lot of people don't like it, but where does that leave us as an audience? What do we come away with that we didn't previously know? I question why the piece was included.

As soon as one scene would become coherent and start to raise pertinent questions it would end, and the audience would be thrust into another only vaguely related world.

The second evening of theater which explored "The Politics of Oppression" and "The Politics of Despair and Hope" fulfilled the promise of the collage's namesake far better than the first evening. Scenes looked at issues like the suppression of personal expression, the development of white supremacist propaganda and the coming to terms with suffering in a world with a supreme God.

The ensemble created some beautiful images. Take, for example, Yee's formation of the Angel of the Waters in Central Park, the human rocking chair in which Erin Kunkel '03 was rocked into eternal sleep, and Tricia Erdmann '03 and Zoe Anastassiou '03 calling to each other as spirits living in the beams suspended up high in the Zoo.

The directors brilliantly took advantage of the minimalist set and allowed the ensemble to create the environment for each segment with striking set pieces formed with actors' bodies and other expressive forms of movement to create a feel and tone for each scene.

While the production had its moments of challenging and connecting with the audience, it was often difficult to glean meaning due to its form. As soon as one scene would become coherent and start to raise pertinent questions it would end, and the audience would be thrust into another only vaguely related world. I found it difficult to get a feel for what the artists were trying to represent or say in the work or what issues they were trying to present when the scenes were often very short and moved on quickly.

Though I was disappointed with the production in some ways, I applaud its intent and the work of Faraone and Harbold. The staging was innovative and the performance's goals provided an example of what theater can be as an art formt. Also their direction led to several fine performances among the cast members, particularly the diverse and vibrant characterizations of Driscoll, the sincere and inviting presences of Yee and Vail and other crisp moments from the rest of the ensemble too numerous to mention.

'Kingdom' Premiere Triumphs

By Jack Thurston
Staff Writer

Despite scheduling conflicts that prevented Hollywood movie producer John Morrissey '72 and director Doug McHenry from coming to campus, a nearly full Dana Auditorium gave a royal reception to the public premiere of their latest comedy, "Kingdom Come." The Fox Searchlight Pictures release debuted here before it shows in theaters everywhere next month.

When the "mean and surly" Bud Slocombe buys the farm, his outrageous relatives reunite for the wake and funeral. In doing so, the Slocombes' personal and collective insecurities, dreams and successes emerge, teaching them that emotional growth – not just tragedy – can come from a family member's death.

"Kingdom Come's" cast reads like a veritable who's-who of black actors. Whoopi Goldberg, who plays Bud's level-headed widow, heads up the list. She finds it more difficult to cope with her family's histrionics than with her husband's passing. L.L. Cool J plays Ray Bud, her son and a recovering alcoholic. Junior, Ray Bud's penniless brother, spends the majority of the film attempting to make good for 12 years of marital strife with his wife, played by Jada Pinkett-Smith. Rounding out the cast are Vivica A. Fox as Ray Bud's wife, Toni Braxton in a bit part as her rich sister-in-law and Cedric the Entertainer as the town's marble-mouthed minister.

The finest performance comes from Loretta Devine, known to many for her small-screen work on Fox's "Boston Public." In "Kingdom," she plays Marguerite, a God-loving guilt-tripper who gushes gospel. Her opinions—much like her church-going attire—are loud and unforgettable. Her son, "Family Matters'" Darius McCrary, is her perfect foil: a jobless "demon" who prefers women and parties to the Bible. His mother tells him, "Life is not a good time, boy!" He responds, "You're living proof of that!" Exchanges like this, and the actors' adeptness at physical comedy, were thoroughly enjoyable.

"Kingdom" clocks in at around 90 minutes, but its fast paced jokes and short scene structure make the film fly by even more quickly. Some of the most memorable scenes, such as one in which Junior Slocombe's wife, Charise, nearly causes a car crash over the discovery of another woman's earring in the car, take place in well under a minute. This effective pacing is surprising, considering that "Kingdom Come" is an adaptation of screenwriters Jessie Jones and David Bottrell's play, "Dearly Departed." The transition from stage to screen effectively created a number of satisfying visuals, most notably the tacky funeral home, colorful church scenes and creative costumes.

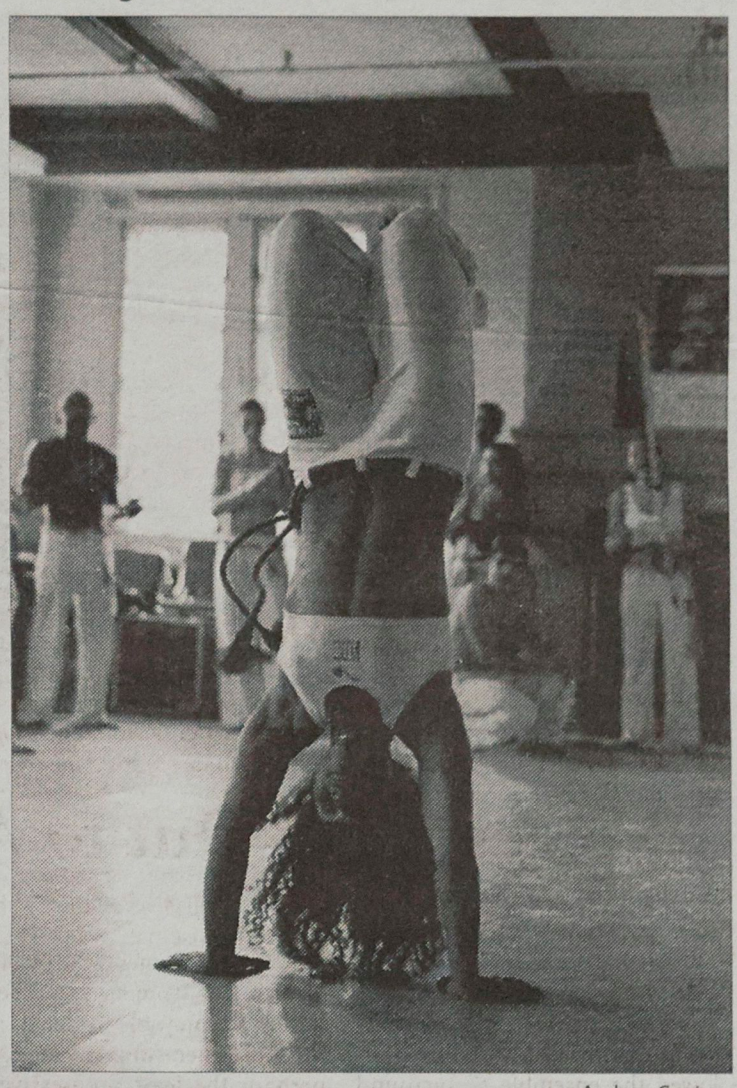
The transition from stage to screen effectively created a number of satisfying visuals, most noticeably the tacky funeral home, colorful church scenes and creative costumes.

Some of "Kingdom Come's" storylines border on the lines of cliché, but the film's light touch and irreverent tone prevent it from falling into this trap. Whereas some films might treat Ray Bud's battle with alcohol, his barren wife's eventual pregnancy or Junior's attempts to patch up his marriage with a heavy hand, "Kingdom" brings each of its ensemble cast members' stories to a subtly pleasant conclusion. Even the Bible-thumping Marguerite comes to terms with her son's waywardness from the church. These universal themes, along with recognizable cast members of all ages, will likely make "Kingdom Come" a modest success when it is released. The soulful soundtrack, by actor-composer Kirk Franklin, also has the potential to really get noticed in record stores.

Middlebury alumnus Morrissey and his partner Larry Turman formed the Turman-Morrissey Company in 1996 and were based at Columbia Pictures for four years. Morrissey produced their first film, "Booty Call." Their Second feature, "American History X," directed by Tony Kay and produced by Morrissey, opened in 1998 from New Line Cinema and garnered a Best Actor Oscar nomination for Edward Norton. Shortly after "Kingdom Come" opens in wide-release in late April, "What's the Worst that Could Happen," an MGM action comedy starring Martin Lawrence and Danny DeVito, opens nationwide and could potentially be Morrissey's most successful project to date.

The premiere of "Kingdom Come" was made possible by Professor Ted Perry of the Middlebury College Program in Film/Video and the Office of the Assistant Provost for Institutional Diversity.

Beaming With Balance



Andrew Corrigan

Standing on her hands, *a member of Capoeria Brazil demonstrates the Brazilian art of Capoeria as part of Brazilian day.*

Classical Duo Commands Concert Hall

(continued from page 18)

tion, all the while appearing rather effortless on the part of the players, their hands and wrists moving with an easy eloquence across their instruments. The work commenced with a beautifully sorrowful sting of notes, until the cello exploded the air. The preceding melody gave only a hint of the power to come, like the distant rumble of a waterfall; the audience knew something was coming, but could only guess as the magnitude of what that something was. The piece ended strongly, both musicians in perfect synch.

The last two pieces were composed by Belá Bartók and Richard Strauss, two men who were born during the reign of the horse and buggy and died in the era of the automobile and motorcycle. Their styles are as different as those two modes of transportation as well, Strauss' tendencies leaning towards those who came before him, Bartók experimenting with that which was to come. Bartók's First Rhapsody, I. Lassu and II. Friss, was played directly before intermission and was the furthest departure from a very traditionally classical program. Bartók's compositions are more intellectual than Strauss', though both have the beauty and grace becoming the genre.

Lassu began with a bang, instruments erupting in a slightly eerie, haunting melody, more striking – in my opinion – than the former pieces and very much Bartók. I could easily imagine it on the soundtrack of some foreign surrealist film, the background to a slightly off-kilter procession making its way across a rather desolate landscape. It seemed to be music in search of identity, as the melody wavered from light to dark, loud to soft and back again. However, I believe that the piece's identity is found in that it hovers in the in between and puts forth a questioning countenance.

The last piece on the program was Strauss' Sonata in E. Major, Op.6. It opens with a stately and strong melody, the piano making its presence well known. The second movement andante ma non troppo, has a funereal feel and gives one the sense of the completeness and finality of conclusion to the first movement, the Allegro con brio. Both the first and second movements were celebrated in the final one – Finale: Allegro vivo – which has almost an air of a feast.

One of the virtues of the duo that struck me most was their impeccable timing and consideration towards the other's style. Subtle cues passed between the two performers throughout the night, Fanning's slight nods reciprocated by Davydov and vice versa. They had the rare rapport of two artists who play with one another inextricably, yet retain their own individuality and interpretation of the music they are playing.

While I look forward to the other privileges this College offers, I have the feeling that I may be comparing them to the benchmark of the Davydov-Fanning concert.

Novel Questions Chemical Solutions

(continued from page 19)

Cohen's prose is finely cultivated in an unexpected way. The narrative always hugs its subjects' consciousness, at times hanging oddly elevated frames on thoughts that do not call for such intricate designs on the air but are usually honed to a breezy poetic standard. Cohen is not one to root out his verbal garden so that only the most precious metaphors grow according to his greater plan.

Rather, metaphors sprout up in his prose with such frequency that you almost feel as if you are reading two stories at once, one, sensual surface structure and the other, ephemeral overgrowth of a well-weathered imagination: "crashing the receiver down into the sheer rock face of his embarrassment," "for too long she'd watered down the whiskey with these kids, seemed to be her attitude," "all the richest and fantastical human constructs—marriage, science and religion—rested upon the same wobbly, two legged sawhorse." There is something Fitzgerald-like in the contemplative extravagance of Cohen's language.

"Inspired Sleep" celebrates its own immersion in the trivial. Aside from the writing itself, the true reward for Cohen's work rests in the characterizations. He invests in those uncomfortable but unavoidable occurrences that mark the usually imperceptible crawl of time — getting children ready for school in the morning, taking a trip to the gynecologist, watching the clock's numbers fall away on the night stand. In Cohen's world, the most forgettable moments are infused with a tremulous spark of personal will doing its best to redeem them. Gradations of personal will are meticulously observed in each character. Describing Ogelvie's coworker, rival and occasional object of wistful lust, Cohen observes: "To spend time with Marisa Chu was to be drawn into an enormous, mystifying web of judgements and distinctions… he had seen enough willful, obsessive people over the years to know that this was how they went about the world, dividing it into binary oppositions—the real and the fake, the square and the cool, the sublime and the pedestrian—drawing lines in the sand between one thing and another, trying to impose the design of their will upon the shifting, shapeless dunes."

English students and otherwise at Middlebury College, where Cohen teaches, might recognize any given assignment's justification in Ogelvie's hamster scramble mantra of self-motivation (as offered in conversation with his new patient, Bonnie): "You invest yourself in that process. You pose fundamental questions. Not to answer them necessarily, though of course you hope for that. But to find connections. Something to help explain them to yourself. Naturally you hope some greater good will come out of that process along the way. Even if it's only accidental."

A study of anxiety in lives tarred by the accidental, "Inspired Sleep" lauds the power of the human mind while lulling you away from the dust and grind of the outside world, the wait, as it were, for the morning alarm to sound. Perhaps, as Cohen hints, literature will prove to be a better drug for well-being than drugs themselves: "Really, in the end, she thought, compared to most people's, the book of her life had never been particularly fateful or tragic; which meant if there was any logic to be found in either literature or anxiety, the two subject areas - or were they the same one? – over which she had achieved some mastery, then the worst would fail to come."

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Depth a Virtue for Women's Lacrosse

(continued from page 24)

first-team IWLCA All-American.

Middlebury's easy opening win however is not an indication of the competition they will face in most conference teams this year. The women are currently ranked third in the nation by the IWLCA. But as Coach Foote termed them, "major rivals" Amherst and Williams are both currently ranked in the top five with Amherst at two and the Ephs at five. "We had a good opening game but we are not close to where we want to be by season's end," Foote added.

Middlebury has lacked the opportunities, due to the icy weather, to work on honing fundamental skills, which simply need a little time to be reacquired each season. Foote and the Panthers plan to travel to Florida over Spring Break after consecutive games in Connecticut against Connecticut College and Wesleyan. "I see our trip to Florida as an opportunity to work on the small things and the details which we haven't had a chance to address yet," said Wheeler. Foote also points out that the team will scrimmage Colby and Williams while playing Randolph Macon in Florida. "Although two of the three are scrimmages, they are all nationally ranked opponents," said Foote.

In a tough first-third of the season, the Panthers will need to play well. For the first year a NESCAC tournament will determine a conference representative in the NCAAs. Only one at-large bid is up for grabs among all the teams in the nation so a high seeding in the NESCAC tournament could significantly help the Panthers. "It doesn't matter too much who we play," said Foote, "but in the next two games we need to play well and establish ourselves as leaders in the league within our own minds."

> In my four years at Middlebury, this team has the most depth of any I've played for.
> — Tri-captain Betsy Wheeler '01

A talented Middlebury squad may be on their way to believing such a claim after this weekend's victory against a ranked opponent (Colby, 20). Veteran Wheeler is optimistic and has high expectations for the team. Wheeler said, "In my four years at Middlebury, this team has the most depth out of any I've played for. I think every player off the bench could come in and do the job she needs to do if she were asked."

Lacrosse Starts Defense of Title With Two Wins

(continued from page 24)

And, as if that weren't enough, the Panther defense made donkeys out of the White Mules, stripping them left and right and destroying any sign of a cohesive offensive unit. Senior defenseman Brian Nickel even showed some offensive prowess, going coast to coast to score his first goal of the season.

While the Panthers may have not met their match yet this season, spring vacation is sure to be a testing period. On Saturday, the team will host a more formidable NESCAC opponent in Connecticut College. Following that, they will head to Maryland for a number of practices before battling perennial powerhouse Washington College. While the players may be both nervous and excited for the upcoming challenges, most agree that they still have to take the season one game at a time.

As Albro explained, "We'll just go about our business as usual. We're not a team to brag, and we're not one to panic either. I think all the fellas on the squad are looking forward to getting into the full swing of things."

Eric Skovsted

Julia Bergofsky '02 beats her defender and looks up field. The women's lacrosse team beat Colby 15-4 Saturday at home.

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Men's Swimming Season Culminates at NCAAs

Chicarilli Claims Both National Diving Titles

By Shannon Egan
Staff Writer

Hard work, dedication and patience are qualities often used in describing the Panthers' Diving Captain Derek Chicarilli '02. Unbelievable would be the best way to describe his season that came to a close this past weekend at the NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships in Buffalo, N.Y. In his three years as a Middlebury diver, Chicarilli has participated in three NCAA championships, but his dedication paid off differently this year. The meet in Buffalo saw Derek as the NCAA Division III champion in both the one-meter and three-meter competitions, earning him Diver of the Meet for this year's event.

Derek will be the first to say that the victory was not an easy feat. Just before he left for the meet, he suffered from a shoulder injury that he feared would prevent him from competing. However, upon arriving at Buffalo's Erie Community College, he realized that he could work through the injury and compete in Thursday's one-meter competition.

Chicarilli earned the last spot in the finals on Thursday, qualifying eighth overall. "I figured I had nothing to lose, being in eighth. I was so pumped with adrenaline that my shoulder didn't even hurt." The result was a cumulative score of 446.65 points, a first-place finish, a new school record and a new attitude about his potential for the weekend.

The third day of the meet brought the three-meter competition. In an impressive diving trials performance, he finished first overall, putting him in a perfect position for the finals that evening. Having never even qualified in the top eight places for the evening competition, Derek knew it was a positive sign. "All I could say to myself was 'Let's do it.'" And he did just that. His score of 520.20 total points on the three-meter was more than enough to earn first place yet again.

Derek was named "Diver of the Meet." His grace and perfection in each dive left the spectators in awe. However, his performance was not unassisted. The work of Diving Coach Lisa Gibbs did not go unnoticed either. She earned "Diving Coach of the Meet," making the duo the very best in Division III diving this year.

"I couldn't ask for a better coach," Derek said of Gibbs. "She was so supportive about my injury the entire time, letting me do what I wanted. When she knew I had a shot at winning she became pretty intense and kept pushing. I couldn't have done it without her support."

After a perfect performance, Derek can't help but be optimistic as he looks forward to next year, the final season of his illustrious career at Middlebury.

File Photo/Andrew Corrigan

Derek Chicarilli '02, after two years of success on a local level, broke out to win the one-meter and three-meter Divison III Diving Championships.

NCAA Winter All-Stars

Goldman and Skogland Named Second Team All-Americans

Scott Goldman '01 and Matt Skogland '01 were each named second team All-Americans Friday in the culmination of two great careers for the Middlebury men's hockey team. Goldman, the last of three brothers to play and win the honor at Middlebury, finished the season as the team's leading scorer with 23 assists and 17 goals. In his career the forward tallied 43 goals and 73 assists. Skogland was the leader of the best scoring defense for 2001. He scored five goals and assisted 18 times this year while compiling 26 goals and 53 assists in his career.

Meg Bonney an All-American in Skiing

It should be noted that in last week's *Middlebury Campus* Meg Bonney '03 was not credited with being an All-American in skiing for earning a ninth-place finish in the giant slalom. The sophomore was the only Middlebury alpine skier to earn the honor. Bonney is also a standout in both soccer and lacrosse.

Middlebury Men and Women Compete in NCAA Swimming Championships

The Middlebury women's swimming and diving team took nine swimmers and one diver to the NCAA Championships in Buffalo beginning on March 8. The team took 12th out of over 50 teams.

The top performer for the Panthers was Alyson Lipsky '03, who finished fifth overall in the 50-yard freestyle in a time of 24.20. The top relay performance was seen by the team of Lipsky, Martha Goebel '04, Amanda Macomber '02 and Lizzy DeWitt '04. They won the consolation heat, taking ninth place in the 200-yard freestyle relay in a time of 1:37.59.

Rookie Courtney Campbell participated in the one-meter diving event, earning sixth place with 350.95 points.

The men placed 16th out of 54 teams. The top performer of the meet was Derek Chicarilli '02, who took first in both the one-meter and three-meter springboard competitions. His accomplishments earned him diver of the meet, and his coach, Lisa Gibbs, diving coach of the meet.

The only swimmer to compete in individual races was Grayson Stuntz '02. His time of 1:55.86 earned him a 15th-place finish in the 200-yard individual medley. He went on to place 12th in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 50.93. For the relays, Middlebury saw some tough competition but two very strong performances. The team of Scott Strickler '02, Steve Kinney '03, Stuntz and Matt Clark '04 took 15th in the 400-yard medley relay and 14th in the 200-medley.

— Compiled by Andrew Zimmermann & Shannon Egan

St. Michael's Defeated, Tennis Falls to Bobcats

(continued from page 24)

longed to first-year Mike Gillim, who proved to his teammates and to himself that he has the mental voraciousness that every tennis player longs for. Gillim won the first set decisively, 6-2. His St. Michael's opponent, however, held on strong and took the second set 7-5. He then went on to take a 5-4 lead in the third set versus Gillim, and even brought himself to match point. Yet, Gillim refused to tighten as so many first-years in his position tend to do. He fought off four match points, before breaking his adversary's serve and lost only two points in the final two games of the set. "If I had played that same match in the fall," he explained afterwards, "I definitely would have lost that third set. My confidence is up. The way I'm playing now makes this a very satisfying win." Gillim's win sealed the victory for Middlebury, allowing them to head to Bates with a 1-0 record.

Middlebury men's tennis has long prided themselves on their doubles, but that was not the case with Bates on Saturday. While captain Matt Rymzo '01 and Steve Hulce '03 dominated their opponents en route to an 8-4 victory, both of the other teams struggled. At number-two doubles, Dougherty played with Rick Jamgochian '03 who at the time was battling the flu. Jamgochian's illness appeared to weigh him down as the match wore on and Middlebury ended up losing 9-7.

Meanwhile, at three doubles, Chris Jennings '03 and Stu Brown '04, lost the first five games before storming back to 5-5. Unfortunately, it was not enough for a win and Bates wound up on top 8-6.

While Middlebury needed four wins in singles after losing the doubles point, only Dougherty and Rymzo were able to supply them. Hulce lost a two-set match at one singles, while Jennings lost 6-1, 6-4 at two singles. At the bottom of the ladder, Brown lost a tight match 7-6, 6-2, while Wainwright, filling in for a sick Jamgochian, lost 7-5, 6-4.

Dougherty's singles match consisted of two sets of smart, tough tennis. He prevailed 6-3, 6-4. Rymzo, however, faltered in the second set before closing his match out in the third and winning 6-3, 1-6, 6-2.

Rymzo was pleased with his own performance although disappointed with the team's loss. "I was able to make a lot of serves today and put pressure on him consistently," he explained. "The doubles was unfortunate, for I thought we were right there. The guys from Bates played well. I thought they were mentally tougher than us and they looked better adjusted to their own facility than we were."

Men's tennis plays its second match today at home at 4:00 against St. Lawrence. They then head to Hilton Head, S.C., on Friday, where they will play five matches over the span of a week.

Charles in Charge

By Charles Gillig
Assistant Sports Editor

June 9, 2002: Continuing his immortal legacy as the greatest athlete ever, Michael Jordan scores 37 in game 6 of the Finals as the Washington Wizards defeat the Portland Trailblazers 105-102 and capture the NBA championship. Jordan, alongside long-time friend and new teammate Charles Barkley, captures the Finals most valuable player while free-agent acquisition Chris Webber receives regular season MVP. Not likely? Think again.

The argument for Jordan returning to the game he loves is convincing. First off, if he decides to return he could prove he can win somewhere other than Chicago. As much respect as Jordan earned with the Bulls, he will always be associated with Scottie Pippen and Phil Jackson. With the Wizards, not only will he get credit for everything on the court, but he will also get props for building up the franchise (something he already started by trading Howard, releasing Strickland and the future release of Richmond).

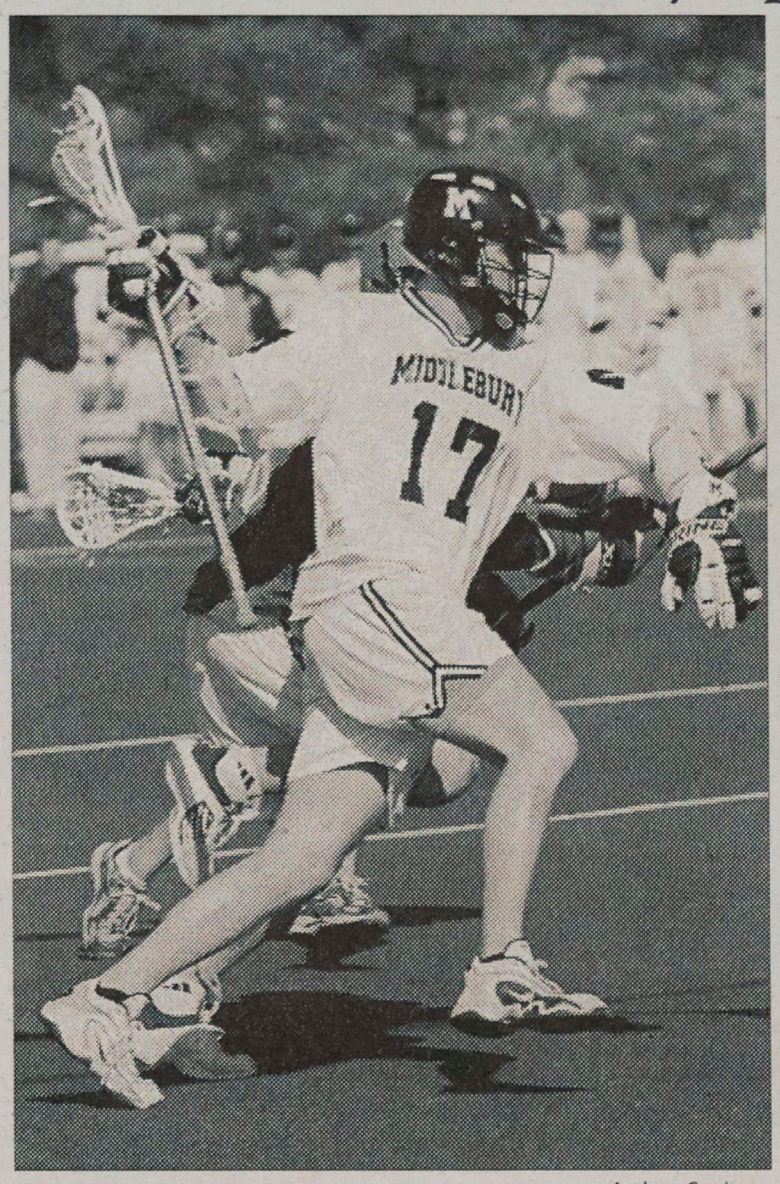
With those big salaries gone and Jordan, hypothetically accepting a big pay cut, the Wizards would have the cash to pick up a disgruntled Webber who said he loved D.C. with the Bullets. And playing with MJ? C-Webb is a virtual lock. So now Jordan is playing with and is part of the new generation of ballers, something he must thirst for everyday. Playing with Webber could also prove Michael as one of the best passers ever. I could envision him as a 25ppg and 8apg guy like the seasoned Wilt Chamberlain who led the league in assists with the Lakers.

But does MJ want to risk tarnishing a near-perfect retirement? Yes, he went out on top, as well as any athlete could leave the game, but when your passion has a time limit, it's hard to say no when there's life left. At 38, Air Jordan still has a year or two of brilliance left and I don't think his insatiable competitive spirit will allow him to stay away.

Pessimists of his comeback say he'll never give up his part ownership of the Wizards and Capitals. Don't worry about this one, there's nothing contract lawyers can't do. You think the other Washington owners might save a share for him if he comes back and makes the franchise and city millions and millions of dollars? I think so. And when Jordan finally retires for real, the team will be worth more, have more publicity and will be able to attract better players. Long-term success as an owner might be incentive enough for #23.

According to the Rick Reilly column in last week's *SI* which this column is based on, Jordan's been putting in ridiculous hours at the gym to get back into game shape. That is simply not the mentality of the "weekend warrior" Jordan claims to be. I just can't believe I'll hear the phrase "World-Champion Washington Wizards."

Men's Lacrosse Unsympathetic to Opponents' Futile Efforts



Andrew Corrigan

Steve O'Neil '01 plows through a Colby defender during Saturday's 19-5 win.

By Nick Ferrer
Staff Writer

Try telling the men's lacrosse team that it's still winter. The Panthers are off to a tremendous start after outscoring their first two opponents by a combined total of 42-11. After snow cancelled a home opener against New England College on March 10, the Panthers headed to Springfield, Mass., to face the NEC Pilgrims the next evening. Still playing like it was their home turf, Middlebury steamrolled its way to a scintillating 23-5 victory.

Men's Lacrosse

Sunday, March 11

New England College	5
Middlebury	23

Saturday, March 17

Colby	6
Middlebury	19

Co-captains Jamie Haire '01 and Holt Hopkins '01 led the charge with five points each. Junior attackman Zach Herbert tallied five assists and Dave Seeley '02 scored four times in a game that saw the Panthers take a commanding 8-1 lead after the first quarter. Nine other players scored for Middlebury, including impressive performances from first-years Ben Tobey, Mike Saracini and Andrew Giordano.

With the win behind them, the Panthers turned their attention to Saturday's home matchup against NESCAC foe Colby. Evidently, one week's preparation was more than enough as the Panthers raced to 13-3 halftime lead before cruising to a 19-6 win.

Offensively, the story was much of the same. Middlebury's experienced attack dominated the game and proved to be far too quick for Colby's defense. Hopkins, Seeley and Herbert provided a showcase of firepower that would have made perfect footage for a highlight film, combining for 10 goals and six assists.

Perhaps one of the most impressive performances of the game, however, came from rookie goalie Eric Kreiger '04. By coming up with several big saves in the first half, Kreiger hushed critics' claims that the Panthers lack a solid presence in goal. Kreiger repeatedly kept Colby from entering the game; he stuffed the White Mules seven times in the first half and prevented them from converting any of their seven extra-man opportunities. Already, the rest of the team is responding. "There was a lot of pressure on Kreiger going into the last two games. People didn't know what to expect from a first-year, but he really came through and was easily one of the most valuable players in the Colby game," said sophomore Mike Frissora, who tallied once against Colby.

On the scorecard Middlebury's talent may have been concentrated in the attack or in goal, but the Panthers' dominance was all over the field. Sophomore Brian McGregor won 10 of 15 face-offs for the Panthers, and defensive middie John Rice '01 seemed to snag every groundball possible. Pete Albro '02 gave a boost to the midfield with his lighting quick dodges, while Christopher Davis '03 and John Boynton '02 continued to tire Colby's midfield lines.

(see Lacrosse, page 22)

Men's Tennis Visits Bates in Tough Season Opener

By Dan Prepas
Staff Writer

The men's tennis team heads to Hilton Head, S.C. this Friday with two matches under their collective belt and a record of 1-1. The first was a win against St. Michael's on Wednesday, in which the bottom half of the team played, and the loss occurred on Saturday at Bates, a team that made it to the NCAA tournament last spring.

Men's Tennis

Wednesday, March 14

Middlebury	4
St. Michael's	3

Saturday, March 17

Middlebury	2
Bates	5

For the St. Michael's match, coach Dave Schwarz decided to play his bottom five players in singles while selecting veteran Matt Dougherty '02 to take over the top spot. In doubles, the number-three team of Dougherty and Mike Gillim '04 dominated their match from start to finish in an 8-3 win. The point was then clinched by sophomores Bob Wainwright and Charlie Leonard, who combined to oust the top St. Michael's team, 8-6. Leonard and Wainwright, who have played doubles together since they were 10 years old, relied heavily on Leonard's sharp volley game and Wainwright's big serve to make it nearly impossible for their opponents to break service.

In singles, Dougherty made short work of his foe in a 6-1, 6-2 beating that left the St. Michael's star confused and flabbergasted. For Dougherty, it was nice to have some match experience before heading to Bates. It was also his first match since his return from Madrid this winter.

Middlebury's two, three and four seeds all struggled in their singles matches. Number-two Wainwright won the first set 6-3, before falling in the second and third sets 6-3, 7-5. It was a painful loss for Wainwright, who felt as though he had let one slip away. "I thought I played some of my best tennis in the beginning," he said. "I really have to work harder at finishing out games when I have the opportunities, and to turn it up a notch when the big points come around." Leonard, playing in the three slot, lost a tough match 6-3, 6-4. Meanwhile, Dan Stenson '03 nearly came back to win in his match, but failed to pull out the third set as he lost 6-2, 3-6, 6-2.

Sixth seed Mike Walsh-Ellis '03 relied on a tremendous serve to do away with his rival 6-3, 6-4. Walsh-Ellis' serve, which is one of the biggest on the team, is extremely hard for opponents to pick up in Nelson Arena, and Walsh-Ellis has learned how to capitalize on the home-court advantage.

But the match of the day be-

(see St. Michael's, page 23)

Women's Lax Stymie White Mules

By Andrew Zimmermann
Sports Editor

After a stellar 13-2 season the women's lacrosse team enters this spring not far from hitting the ceiling of their full potential. This winter has been a long one for last year's NCAA semifinalist, as the snow has only recently given way to practices on the turf. Saturday the women opened their season with a convincing win against another cold-weather school and NESCAC foe, Colby College.

Women's Lacrosse

Saturday, March 17

Colby	4
Middlebury	15

The Panthers wasted no time in blitzing Colby. In the first 20 minutes the women built a 7-0 lead behind the example of Julia Bergofsky '02 who lead the team with four goals and three assists on the afternoon.

The upperclassmen set the tone for the first-year's initial game by playing tenacious defense and hustling throughout the game. Senior captains Lissie Fishman and Kate Robertson anchored the defense while tri-captain Betsy Wheeler teamed with Bergofsky to run the offense. Nuala O'Donohoe '04 from Needham Mass., showed she will be a force to be reckoned with in the NESCAC. The first-year played solid defense in Middlebury's offensive end and managed five goals and an assist for her efforts.

By halftime the pace of play and the score were all within Middlebury's control. Coach Missy Foote commented on the Colby game as, "a great chance to see where we are at and what we have to do. We hadn't had any scrimmages so it was a good opportunity to continue early season assessments." Coach Foote was particularly impressed with the defensive work of All-American skier Meg Bonney '03 who had been racing in the NCAA Skiing Championships just one week previous.

In the second half the Panthers increased their lead to 10-3 with 22:42 left. In the remaining time they went on a 5-0 run until Colby tallied the final goal of the game. Preseason Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association (IWLCA) All-American Betsy Wheeler finished with three goals and an assist to complement her fellow attackmen. First-year Sarah Grenert made five saves in goal for the Panthers and was aided by the presence of Ali Connolly, another

(see Depth, page 22)

Eric Skovsted

Char Glessner '03.5 strips an opponent of the ball deep in her defensive end duing Saturday's trouncing of NESCAC foe Colby.